

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS

19-74-78

VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN UNUSUAL RECORD

accepted JR 9/8

1. Species: AMERICAN WOODCOCK PHILOMELA MINOR 2. Number: _____
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)
3. Location: CACHE LA POUDE RIVER ~ 7 MILES NW OF FT. COLLINS
4. Date(s): 5 JULY 1974 5. Time bird seen: 9:30 AM to 9:31 AM
6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern. (Describe in great detail all parts of the plumage including beak and feet coloration in addition to the diagnostic characteristics; however, include only what actually was seen in the field):
 SIZE: ABOUT SIZE OF ROBIN, BUT CHUNKIER
 BILL: LONG + STRAIGHT W/ SLIGHT DOWNCURE AT TIP
 HEAD: 3 BLACK BARS DISTINCT ON BACK OF HEAD
 LEGS: VERY SHORT
 TAIL: SLIGHT (NOT TOO DISTINCT) WHITE END FRINGE
 WINGS: ROUNDED; DARK EXCEPT RUDDY NEAR BODY
 COLOR: RUDDY BELLY, MOTTLED BACK.
7. Description of voice, if heard: PEENT-PEENT; ONLY ISSUED ONCE.
8. Description of behavior: FLUSH FROM TALL GRASS, FLY SHORT DISTANCE, REPEATED TWICE
9. Habitat--general: COTTONWOOD RIVER BOTTOM
 specific: TALL RUSHES + GRASSES
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated 6, 7 and 8 above; Explain: COMMON SNIPES WAS ELIMINATED 1) RUDDY COLOR, 2) ROUNDED WINGS, 3) BLACK BARS ON BACK OF HEAD, 4) NO CHARACTERISTIC KRAK WHEN FLUSHED, 5) FLEW LOW, FAIRLY STRAIGHT, 6) PEENT CALL
11. Distance (how measured?): 8-15', BY PIRANS
12. Optical equipment: 8X30 BINOCULARS
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and observer): CLEAR SKY, LIGHT FROM EAST, I WAS LOCATED EAST OF BIRD
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: NO EXPERIENCE WITH WOODCOCK, EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE WITH SNIPES
15. What made you think this species was unusual or rare? LIST ISSUED BY CFB ON RARE + UNUSUAL BIRDS, GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF COLORADO BIRDS
16. Other observers: NONE
17. Did others agree with your identification? _____
18. Other observers who independently identified this bird: _____
19. Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation: ROBBINS, ET AL. A GUIDE TO FIELD IDENTIFICATION: BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA. HAD W/ ME IN FIELD + USED TO BE CERTAIN OF IDENTIFICATION
20. If bird was photographed, please attach pictures and describe equipment used:
Paul Gertle Street Address: 4040 LYNDA LANE
 Signature
 Date Prepared: 15 JULY 1974 City and State: FT COLLINS, COLORADO

(USE THE REVERSE, OR ADDITIONAL PAGES, IF NECESSARY)