

## COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS

19-74-78

## VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN UNUSUAL RECORD

accepted J.R. 9/8

1. Species: AMERICAN WOODCOCK PHILOHEDA MINOR 2. Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)

3. Location: LACHE LA POUDRE 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 DOWNCURVE 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  
LAND, REPEATED TWICE

9. Habitat--general: COTTONWOOD RIVERBOTTOM  
 specific: TALL RUSHES & GRASSES

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated 6, 7 and 8 above; Explain: COMMON SNIPE WAS ELIMINATED 1) RUDDY COLOR, 2) ROUNDED WINGS, 3) BLACK BARS ON BACK OF HEAD, 4) NO CHARACTERISTIC KRAAK WHEN FLUSHED, 5) FLEW LOW, FARLY STRAIGHT, 6) PEENT CALL

11. Distance (how measured?): 8-15' BY EYES

12. Optical equipment: 6X30 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 SNIPE.

15. What made you think this species was unusual or rare? LIST ISSUED BY CFO ON RARE & UNUSUAL BIRDS, GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF COLORADO BIRDS

16. Other observers: NO ONE

17. Did others agree with your identification? NO

18. Other observers who independently identified this bird: NO ONE

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. HELD ME IN FIELD & USED TO BE CERTAIN OF IDENTIFICATION

20. If bird was photographed, please attach pictures and describe equipment used:

Paul Gorrell

Street Address: 4040 LYNDIA LANE

Signature

Date Prepared: 15 JULY 1974 City and State: FT COLLINS, COLORADO

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