

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☐☒ 1st single observer

Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species: Ground Dove | Columbina passerina
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 11-8-81Number of birds seen: 1 (one) Sex: female Plumage: _____Locality: 100 yds N. of junction of State Hwy 67 & County Rd 97 Elevation: 6,400'
on Hwy 97 (Douglas County road)Nearest town: Deekers, Colorado County: DouglasTime(s) observed: 2:15 PM - one timeDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 2-3 minutes

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

Martha Morales 2085 Quince Denver, CO 80207 303-333-0878
(spouse)

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers)

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):

Bird in full sunlight both on ground and in tree - facing into sun
(west) in the afternoon. Cloudless sky. 7/35 binoculars

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types):

Distance, and how measured: 15 ft. and 35 ft. - estimatedIf photographed, type of equipment and film: no camera on hand at time

Who else photographed the bird? _____

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

Rapid, low flight (approx. 2-3' above ground). Rapid walk, scurried from
roadside to beneath a bush. When flushed flew to nearby tree (pine).Describe in detail the bird's relative size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern.
Include details of bill, wing and tail shape. Give particular emphasis to marks you used
to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions and il-
lustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observe in the field:

- Bird first observed flying rapidly in front of my vehicle, crossing the county road. Rust or rufous wing color was first noticeable marking
- On the ground, bird appeared to be small, plump rapid walker - wife commented that it, "looks like a quail!" - 15' away.
- after bird scurried under a bush I flushed it out with a stick

Description (continued):

and again watched its rapid flight to a nearby tree (35'), with rusty wings flashing.

- When bird perched on tree branch I used binoculars to observe it and noticed: 1) sm. dark tail; 2) dark edged head + breast feathers; 3) drk wing spots; 4) pigeon-like beak; 5) similarity to mourning dove (except considerably smaller in overall size, esp. tail).

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

No call given during observation

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

Arid, brushy roadside, abundant in yucca, small cacti and leafless brush. Rocky, rough soil. Coniferous trees except along river - parallel to road.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

- Pigeon-like appearance negated quail as family.

- Size, rufous-colored wings and dark tipped feathers eliminated mourning dove as species.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

Countless observations of rock doves (native Chicagoan)

and have series of slides of mourning dove hatching eggs and raising squabs as well as numerous observations of that species.

List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

a) at time of observation: did not immediately refer to field guides but recorded details in writing.

b) after observation: 3 hrs after observation referred to:

Golden Field Guide - Birds of No. America; Audubon Soc. Field Guide (Western Region)

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation X from memory _____

Date and time report was written: 11-14-81 8:00 PM

Reporting observer: Dennis Morales Signature: Dennis Morales

Address: 2085 Quince Street Denver, Colorado 80207

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CITY PARK
DENVER, CO 80205