

Species: *Phainopepla nitens*  
(Vernacular name)*Phainopepla nitens*  
(Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students--those studying occurrences 50 years from now--must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Date (s): June 20-29, 1986 Date 29 Time Bird Seen: 1930 to 2200Locality: La Baca Ranch, Ignacio, La Plata County, Colorado

Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Binoculars

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: Female Plumage: juvLight conditions: Light overcastDistance from bird, and how measured: 50-60' estimated

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

*Chirped in flock. Feeds on seeds of  
cactus, mesquite, and other desert  
plants. Sings at dusk and dawn.*

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:  
*desert shrub, mesquite, in black desert line  
on ridge*Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough.) Describe what you actually saw in the field.

Primarily black and white in flight  
Black and white with a lot of white in flight  
Savanna Crested  
Longish tail  
Black upper

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery--i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

No sound

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Warbler - This one has no color on the head  
and crest was not yellow.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

The prior experience is from the following field notes and  
the time.

• This report was written from notes made during        after        observation; from memory

NAME (print): Caroline Shryock

Mailing address: 1000 Tropicana Avenue, Suite 1000, Las Vegas, NV 89102

Signature: Caroline Shryock

Return to:

Hugh E. Kingery  
869 Milwaukee Street  
Denver, Colorado 80206

Species: Phainopepla  
(Vernacular name)Phainopepla nitens  
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Date (s): June 28, 1981 Time Bird Seen: 3:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
Locality: La Boca Ranch, Ignacio, La Plata County, C  
Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Binoculars

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used:

Number of birds seen: one Sex: female Plumage: dull gray

Light conditions: Cloudy

Distance from bird, and how measured: 50 feet (estimated)

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

*The bird fly from across road to this particular  
old tree & perched there while we observed of  
it.*

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

*It was perched in old dead tree on  
a hill with brush & rock along the  
side.*

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

Harold Mansfield  
888 C.R. 301

Riisage, CO 81301

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough.) Describe what you actually saw in the field. + red eye.

Slender bird with longish tail. Blue gray with conspicuous crest which flew from across the road to the dead tree & perched there temporarily several times.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

None heard

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Waxwing - too much white color & markings, consequently was able to eliminate them.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

Previously have seen this bird in Durango at Clarence Whitteman Lewis's home as well as Waxwings)

\* This report was written from notes made during \_\_\_\_ after \_\_\_\_ observation; from memory

NAME (print): LORITA MANSFIELD

Mailing address: 888 C.R. 301, DURANGO, CO 81301

Signature: Lorita M. Mansfield

Return to:

Hugh E. Kingery  
869 Milwaukee Street  
Denver, Colorado 80206