

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐ UNUSUAL RECORD ☐

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

Species: White winged Crossbill (Vernacular Name) LOXIA LEUCOPISTA (Scientific Name)

Date(s): 23 June 1981

Number of birds seen: 11 (3)

Sex: 2♂ 1♀

Plumage: ADULT

Locality: Divide Colo.

Elevation: 9150

Nearest town: Divide Colo.

County: TELLURIDE

Time(s) observed: 8:15 - 8:30 AM

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 15 MINUTES & 30 SEC 20'

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

Tom Larcher 200 CRYSTAL PARK ROAD, Col. Springs, Co  
Jim & Rosie Watts 6136th STREET, COLORADO SPRINGS

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):

CLOUD COVER 0%. BIRD WAS IN DIRECT LIGHT WEST OF ABOVE OBSERVERS

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 10X50 BUSHNELL 32X50RUSSELL SCORE

Distance, and how measured: 40' IN WHICH THE SP. OF INTEREST TREE WAS APPROX 25-30' TALL

If photographed, type of equipment and film: 1♀ by Jim Watts

Who else photographed the bird?

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

2♂ OBSERVED FLYING AWAY FROM AREA.  
1♀ OBSERVED PREENING.

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 illustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observed in the field:

RELATIVE SIZE & OVERALL SHAPE - Sparrow-sized w/ heavy bill & deeply forked tail

BILL - Mandibles crossed color BLACK FAIRLY LARGE IN PROPORTION TO THE HEAD

TAIL - EXTENDING BEYOND WING TIPS. FAIRLY BROAD AND DEEPLY FORKED. SAME COLOR AS WINGS - DARK GRAY AND CONTRASTING WITH PALER RUMP.

RUMP - Olive in color and contrasting with DARKER wings AND RUMP.

BACK WAS OLIVE-GRAY IN COLOR AND CONTRASTED LESS THAN RUMP WITH THE WING (OVER) AND TAIL.



Description, (continued)

WING MORE OR LESS SAME COLOR AND SHADE AS  
TAIL WITH TWO(2) DISTINCT WHITE WING BARS

TORSOS & TOES BLACK IN COLOR

20's RUMP RED AND CONTRASTING WITH DARK WING & TAIL  
WING SHOULD MATCH WHITE IN FLIGHT

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

SOFT FLIGHT CALL HEARD AS THE 20'S WERE OBSERVED  
FLYING AWAY, THE ONE WAS SILENT.

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

General mixed coniferous and deciduous forest. PREDOMINATELY  
BLUE SPRUCE, DOUG FIR AND ASPEN, A FEW PONDEROSA PINE.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

TWO DISTINCT WHITE WING BIRDS— ABSENT IN RED CROSSBILL

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

White-winged crossbill 12-30 (7-8 + 9's) at CAKES SPRINGS S.,  
1981

Red crossbill MOST RECENT FEW DAYS PRIOR TO OBSERVATION OF THE  
TH WH. WING CROSSBILLS

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

a) at time of observation:

BIRDS EAST OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS  
PETERSON 1980

b) after observation:

This report was written from notes made during ☒ observation; from memory ☐.

Date and time report was written: 5 AUG 1981

Reporting observer: Richard Bunn

Signature: RICHARD BUNN

Address: 2121 N. 1st St. Suite 100, Denver, CO 80202

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, COLORADO 80205