

SUPPORTING DETAILS: UNCOMMON OR RARE SPECIES AND/OR SPECIES IN HIGH NUMBERS

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CBC name Roaming Fork CBC date 12/27/86 Compiler Jim ConwayObserver writing this account and date Victor M Zerbi JrSPECIES Field Sparrow NUMBER, AGE, SEX 1 adult sex? EasternDistance from bird(s) 25 feet Relative size of bird smaller than Junco or House Finch
larger than Pine Siskin & Goldfinch

HEAD & NECK (Describe forehead, crown, auricular, malar region, median line, etc.)

~~orange~~ orange crown with slight grey streak in rear 1/2 of crown only
crown not solid but slightly streaky orange streaks / Neck had grey collar incomplete
in backEYE & LORES (Describe supercilium, ring, stripe, color, etc.) clear solid eye ring
orange color near eye on face behind eye no face eye stripes howeverUPPER & LOWER MANDIBLES smaller pink triangular billLEGS & FEET pinkish orange legs & feetUPPERPARTS (Describe nape, back, rump, upper tail coverts, etc.) Nape & gray collar com.
from face / BACK: tan & chestnut brown stripes / Rump - brownish grayUNDERPARTS (Describe throat, belly, side, flanks, crissum, etc.) throat - whitish gray
belly: Flanks - whitish but some orangish-pink coming down from shoulder visible

RECTRICES (Describe inner, middle, outer tail feathers, color pattern, shape, etc.)

TAIL - appeared narrow - it had a notch but was generally held
together color brownish grayWING (Describe color, length, shape, linings, bars, coverts, leading and trailing edges, etc.) brown to chestnut orange with 2 clear white narrow
wing barsVOCALIZATION NoneBEHAVIOR came to feeder with mixed seed / fairly shy other birds Junco
etc could & did often chase it off. Never high in trees usually fed
on ground or flat feeder.Date of observation 10/28/86 Time 9:45 Weather 40° Sky cover overcast to sunDuration of observation 15 minute Bird - Sun orientation varied feeder was2) 3X for 20 min each
Exact location 0987 Glen Oak Glenwood Springs CO south of observerHabitat _____ Other observers Rod & Peggy Jordan Mark JanosOptical equipment 10x40 B Zeiss / 20-45 Bushnell spotting S.
500mm Celestron lens on OlympusADDITIONAL COMMENTS I was called to confirm the previous days (count day)
sighting by the Jordons. Sighting also confirmed by Janos a member
of Colorado Field Ornithologist Record Committee.

AN ACCOMPANYING SKETCH OR PHOTOGRAPH CAN BE AN EXCELLENT FURTHER DOCUMENTATION

APPENDIX II

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDSA ~~56-87-91~~
Same bird as 56-87-86Species: Field Sparrow; Spizella pusilla
(Vernacular name) (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.

Dates (s): 18 Jan 1987 Time Bird Seen: 9:15 am to 9:25 amLocality: Backyard feeder
Glenwood Springs, COLO
Nearest town, county and state:Optical equipment: 9x30 binocs Nikon; 20x scope Bushnell

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: _____ Plumage: adultLight conditions: Bright sunDistance from bird, and how measured: ~ 30 ft. est.Describe the bird's overall behavior: At platform feeder. Often chased away by other birds, was reluctant to feed together.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Backyard feeder; patio bordering brush along small creek.Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):
Vic Zebbi

APPENDIX 11 Continued

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. Very small and slender. Much smaller than juncos; about size of pine siskins but tail was very long and slender with a pale outer edge. Bill small and conical; bright pink, pinker-orange than junco bills. Legs and feet pink. Crown rusty-orange, faintly streaked gray; a of crown split on nape by gray. Back has grayish-brown color with blackish-red streaks. Wings brownish with 2 distinct narrow white wing bars. Face and underparts gray with rusty stripe behind eye, rusty auricular patch, faint rusty spot at sides of breast. Clear distinct white eye ring.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.: Not heard.

List similar species and how you eliminated them: Plain, unstreaked underparts, small size eliminate most sparrows but spizella. Imm. white-crowned too large, has gray legs, lacks eye ring, orange tones. Brewer's Sparrow has faint eye ring but is grayer, lacks pink bill & orange tones, rusty cap. Am. Tree Sparrow most like this species but usually has breast spot, lacks pink bill and feet, no white eye ring.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

Much exp with Field Sparrow in year spent 1978-79 in N. Illinois studied breeding birds in July 1986 in S. Wisc. Have seen twice in Colo. Have seen most other N.A. sparrows with much experience with most similar spizella sp.

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

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Return Form To:

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