

Mrs. Blide  
Accepted JR 1/29/1974  
N-31-4

SIGHT REPORT: DOCUMENTATION FOR COLORADO STATE BIRD LIST CONSIDERATION

Species: ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD | Calypte anna  
 ----- (Vernacular Name) ----- (Scientific Name-use binomial) -----

Date: August-September 1966 Time Bird Seen: Aug 28 to September 9

Locality: Edith Blide's back yard

Nearest Town: Hotchkiss County: Delta

Observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
Theo Colborn (Mrs H R )	RD 1 Hotchkiss Colo	872 3714
Edith Blide	" "	872 3456
Edgar Blide	" "	" "

Optical Equipment: 7x35, 7x50, 9x35 naked Distance (observer to bird): 3 to 30 ft

Light Conditions: all kinds of weather all day long

Previous Experience With Bird: None but have since observed this bird in San Diego, California

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: M Plumage: Adult or mature

Description of size, shape and color-pattern. (Describe in specific detail all parts of the plumage including beak and feet coloration in addition to the diagnostic characteristics. Include only what was actually seen in the field):

Red fore-head and red chin (when properly reflected) White patch under the red chin. Green back and wings which darkened near tips.  
Same size as a male broad tail...did not make the noise the broadtail does when it flies.

Description of Voice (if heard): Do not remember any

Description of Behavior: Sat perched on wires and clotheslines in back yard. Not disturbed by people very much. Drank at the many feeders in the yard. Often flew over to a woodbine and sat in that bush.

Habitat - General: The yard is well shaded by an old cottonwood whose base measures 25 ft plus in circumference. Flowers of all varieties. Many shrubs.  
 Specific: Ate at sugar water feeders.

Date Prepared: May 18, 1973

Address: RD 1, Hotchkiss, Colorado 81419  
 Phone: Colborn 872 3714 Blide 872 3456

Theo Colborn (Mrs H.R.)  
 (Signature)

Edith Blide

(Use the reverse, or additional pages, if necessary)



accepted  
JR 1/29/1974  
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The following account of an Anna's Hummingbird in Colorado was reported in the Colorado Field Ornithologist, No. 9, July 1971, page 26:

The following report was received from Mrs. Colborn: "Mrs. Blide first noted the Anna's Hummingbird (Calypste anna) on August 28, 1966, when it came to her sugar-water feeders in her yard on Powell Mesa, Hotchkiss, Colorado. The bird had a red forehead and red throat and green back and tail. We sat many hours at various times of the day watching the bird. It would perch on an electric wire that is strung across her yard, just above our lawn chairs. It spent much time flying in and out of an old apple tree that is covered with wood bine (Virginia Creeper). Most of the time we were too close to the bird to use binoculars.

We noted it two days after the arrival of the Rufous Hummingbirds. It left on September 9, 1966, the same day as the Rufous Hummingbirds left, staying a total of thirteen days. We make note in 1966 that there were definitely more than the usual numbers of hummingbirds in the orchards around Mrs. Blide's house during late August and early September and that there were more Rufous Hummingbirds than normal."

Theodora E. Colborn  
Box 38, R.D. #1  
Powell Mesa  
Hotchkiss, Colorado 81419

## Calypste anna - - - - ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD

The CFO Official Records Committee has reviewed written documentation reporting the occurrence of one adult male Anna's Hummingbird observed from August 28, 1966 through September 9, 1966 at Hotchkiss, Delta County. The observers were Mrs. Theodora Colborn, Edith Blide and Edgar Blide all of Hotchkiss. Based upon the reports received from these observers, the Official Records Committee has ruled to accept this record as a first for the State of Colorado and has approved the addition of the Anna's Hummingbird to the Official State List.

Chairman's comment: Mrs. Colborn and the Blides reported an adult male with "red forehead and red chin (when properly reflected) with a white patch under the chin; green back and wings which darkened near the tips; same size as a male Broad-tail. . . did not make the noise the Broad-tail does when it flies. . . ." The bird did not call during any of the periods of observation. The observers further reported that "the bird sat perched on wires and clothesline in backyard. . . The yard is well shaded by an old cottonwood with many flowers of all varieties. . . Ate at sugar feeders and spent much time flying in and out of an old apple tree which is covered with wood bine (Virginia Creeper)."

The Official Records Committee deliberated over this report for approximately eight months before voting to accept it as a first state record. While the documentation was fairly adequate, several members of the Committee were a bit sceptical, pointing out the possibility of an aberrant Broad-tail with a red forehead or a Broad-tail with lots of red pollen on its forehead (not an unlikely possibility). In addition, the descriptions did not entirely state how much of the forehead was actually red. However, the Committee ultimately voted in favor of acceptance and the record constitutes a first for the state.

It is interesting to note that American Birds, October 1973, Volume 27, Number 5 carries an article on the Range Expansion of Anna's Hummingbird by Dale A. Zimmerman. On pages 829 and 830, Mr. Zimmerman writes, "An Anna's Hummingbird was reported from Durango, Colorado, by the late Oppie Reames, a veteran hummingbird observer, June 21, 1970 (Scott, 1970: p. 703). . . There are no other records for the state." Evidently Mr. Zimmerman was unaware of the Hotchkiss report of 1966. The record for the 1970 sighting at Durango is currently being reviewed by the Committee and if accepted will constitute only the second record for Colorado. As pointed out in the Zimmerman article, the Anna's Hummingbird was considered as essentially a California species, restricted to that state and to adjacent northern Baja California as a breeding bird, wandering in winter to Arizona. However the range of this species has evidently changed much over the years and has now been reported from Sonora, Mexico; Nevada; New Mexico; Texas; Coahuila, Mexico; Northern California and Oregon; Washington; British Columbia; Alaska and even Montana.

*Jack Reddick*

CHAIRMAN

CFO Official Records Committee

January 29, 1974



## ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD IN COLORADO

Theodora E. Colborn  
Box 33, R.D. #1, Powell Mesa  
Hotchkiss, Colorado 81419

Oppie Reames  
101 West 31st Street  
Durango, Colorado 81301

The following report was received from Mrs. Colborn: "Mrs. Blide first noted the Anna's Hummingbird (Calypte anna) on August 28, 1966, when it came to her sugarwater feeders in her yard on Powell Mesa, Hotchkiss, Colorado. The bird had a red forehead and red throat and green back and tail. We sat many hours at various times of the day watching the bird. It would perch on an electric wire that is strung across her yard, just above our lawn chairs. It spent much time flying in and out of an old apple tree that is covered with wood bine (Virginia creeper). Most of the time we were too close to the bird to use binoculars."

"We noted it two days after the arrival of the Rufous Hummingbirds. It left on September 9, 1966, the same day as the Rufous Hummingbirds left, staying a total of thirteen days. We make a note in 1966 that there were definitely more than the usual numbers of hummingbirds in the orchards around Mrs. Blide's house during late August and early September and that there were more Rufous Hummingbirds than normal."

Oppie Reames reports as follows: "One male Anna's Hummingbird was observed June 21, 1970, at the feeder in my yard, and again on June 22nd. The last date seen was at the feeder on June 25th at 7:05 P.M. An unidentified hummingbird (this male?) had been visiting the feeder regularly (June 14, 15, 18 and 20) and would usually be seen very early or very late in the day, about 6:00-6:15 A.M. and again at 8:45-9:00 P.M."

"It was not until June 21st that I was able to see the rich rose-red on the forehead. The sun was obscured by clouds until about 5:00 P.M. when I heard the distinctive voice while adjusting a new feeder -- a very fast hissing, rattling with a chick or chuck interspersed -- and the wing noise. I turned my head slowly to find the bird poised beside the feeder on my right. After a few seconds he fet at the feeder which was less than 2 1/2 feet from me. I was not able to see any rose-red on the throat and chin area -- it looked black, as the light came from the bird's back. I believe the lilac bush over the feeders to be the bird's perch for the night, for I could hear him there as I walked out around 9:00 P.M."

"Every place I have visited in the area has had swarms of Rufous, Broad-tailed, Black-chinned and a sprinkling of Calliope Hummingbirds."



COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS  
OFFICIAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

N-31-4

Accepted

no Response JR 1/29/73  
JR 1/15/73

December 10, 1972

Mrs. Theodora E. Colborn  
Box 38, R.D. #1, Powell Mesa  
Hotchkiss, Colorado 81119

Reply received  
5/19/73

Dear Mrs. Colborn,

As you may or may not know, the Colorado Field Ornithologists recently established an Official Records Committee to review all rare or unusual species reported from within the State of Colorado as well as reviewing all new species reported for the first time within the state. The Colorado Field Ornithologists also appointed me as Chairman of this Committee and this is the reason I am writing to you.

One of the first tasks that the Committee is undertaking is that of bringing the Official State List of the Birds of Colorado up to date. To accomplish this, we are attempting to check out all new species reported subsequent to the publishing of the Birds of Colorado by Bailey and Niedrach in 1965. To this end the Committee is endeavoring to run down the report of an Anna's Hummingbird reported from the Hotchkiss area during August and September of 1966. So far as can be determined this is the first report of this species occurring in Colorado. There is a subsequent record in 1970 from the Durango area made by Oppie Reames, the details of which Kip Stransky has provided to me.

Since your record of 1966 is the first for Colorado, we on the CFO Official Records Committee are vitally interested in obtaining as much information as possible about it. Thus we are requesting that you complete the enclosed form entitled, "SIGHT REPORT: Documentation for Colorado State List Consideration" and return it to me as soon as it is convenient to do so. A second copy of this form is also included since we understand that a Mrs. Bilde also saw the bird. Her report would be welcomed also. While the Committee realizes that your sighting of the Anna's Hummingbird was made a number of years ago, it is hoped that you may still have some notes or other data available that will enable you to complete the enclosed form. The Committee would like to stress the importance of providing as much information as possible since the most valuable reports are those which are as specific as possible and as complete as the observer can make them.

The Official Records Committee appreciates your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Jack Reddall  
1450 South Alton Street  
Englewood, Colorado 80110

CHAIRMAN  
CFO Official Records Committee