

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' SIGHT RECORD REPORT  
☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD ☐ NEW STATE RECORD

CFO-ORC FILE # 10-76-22

Accepted Jan 7/27/76

Species: Red-Shouldered Hawk | Buteo lineatus  
 (Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): 2/15/76 Time Bird Seen: 9:45 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.

Locality: Landsman Creek at Bonny Res.

Nearest Town: Idalia or Hale County: Yuma

Other observers who identified this bird:

| NAME                | ADDRESS                            | TELEPHONE       |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <u>Pete Moulton</u> | <u>1328 S. Coffman #3 Longmont</u> | <u>772-0283</u> |
| <u>Judd Sundine</u> | <u>4305 E. Florida Denver</u>      | <u>756-1116</u> |
| <u>Kathy Murphy</u> | <u>335 National Pl. Longmont</u>   | <u>772-7687</u> |

Optical Equipment: 7x35 Binoculars

Light Conditions: Excellent

Distance from Bird (how measured): 30 yds. estimated.

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: Adult Plumage: Adult

Overall Appearance and Size: Buteo slightly smaller than a red-tailed.

Detailed Description (describe only what was actually observed in the field):

Bill (shape and color):

Legs (shape and color):

Crown and Forehead:  Eye (color):

Nape:  Face:  Throat:

Breast and Sides: Breast very orange

Belly and Flanks: not seen

Undertail Coverts: not seen

Back: Dark with reddish patches between 1st wing joint and body

Wings: Dark with white bands from near wing-tips to body

Underwings: not seen

Rump: dark Uppertail Coverts:

Upper Side of Tail: banded, very dk. alternating with white

Under Side of Tail: not seen

Shape of Tail: Fan shaped slightly rounded

Voice: Not heard

Behavior: Bird was perched on a snag at the edge of a wood lot. It flushed and flew directly into the woods.

Habitat: Riparian woodland.

Previous Experience with this Species: I have observed several adults in E. Central Kansas.

How Were Similarly Appearing Species Eliminated? Broad winged might be confused with a Red-Shouldered, but it lacks the reddish patches on the front of the wings, is smaller, and doesn't have as many bands on the tail.

This Report was written From: Notes made during ☒ after ☒ observation; Memory

Signed: Michael Moulton Street Address: 1328 S. Coffman #3

Date Prepared: 2/17/76 Town and State: Longmont, Colo. ZIP: 80501



The bird was first seen perched on a snag of a cottonwood tree. The overall appearance at that point was a buteo with a dark back and an orange breast.

4 people saw the bird, and when it flushed a few others caught glimpses of it. These other people were high school kids that were new to birding.

When the bird flushed it showed its back in a great pose. It flew down and then up. At this point all the banding on the wings and tail were clearly seen by the 4 observers, as well as the reddish patches.

I have seen many adult Red-Shouldered Hawks and this specimen demonstrated not only 3 definitive field marks, (shoulders, wings, and tail) but it also displayed the habit of diving at once deep into the woods, dropping off the limb in a style more reminiscent of a Great-Horned Owl than some of our more familiar Colorado Buteos.

Mike Moulton