

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD UNUSUAL RECORD

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

Species: Black-billed Cuckoo / Coccyzus erythrophthalmus
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): Aug. 1st 1990Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: Unknown Plumage: ImmatureLatilong: 7 Distribution Code: R-Acc. Habitat Code: R-LLocality: Tumbo Reservoir - campground at NE corner of reservoir Elevation: 3700Nearest town: Sedgwick County: SedgwickTime(s) observed: 5:00 pmDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 2 minutes total from 3 sightings

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

None

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

None

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):

Full sun bird in tree row running east-west, seen from north side east and west of bird

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): Bausch and Lomb #8 X 42 ElitesDistance and how measured: 20-50 feet - pacedIf photographed, type of equipment and film: None

Who else photographed the bird: _____

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

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:

Upperparts sandy brown, underparts white, long tail, black downcurved bill, lower mandible had pale gray base,

Description (continued): dark eye and legs, very narrow pale eye-ring, no eye-stripe, uppertail had pale gray tips to all retriges, seen fanned, no rufous color in wings during flight

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

Called twice, two soft rapid notes, shorter than mourning dove which was also heard

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

Seen in a grove of cottonwood and palm trees

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Yellow-billed cuckoo - no rufous in wings during flight, no discernible black in uppertail view
Brown thrasher - no spots on underparts,

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

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

a) At time of observation: National Geographic - 1st edition

b) After observation: Same, Peterson tapes - Western

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation X, from memory _____

Date and time report was written: 10/15/90

Reporting observer: Norman B. Erthal Signature: Norman B. Erthal

Address: 7761 Everett Way Arvada CO 80005

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to: CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
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