

ACCEPTED

rec'd 5/22

(1)

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: Baltimore Oriole Icterus galbula
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 5/10/01 + 5/11/01Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: Male Plumage: Adult (see photo)Locality: Sw Western Colorado Elevation: approx 6500 ft.Nearest town: Durango, CO County: La PlataTime(s) observed: 10:30am 5/10/01 + from dawn to dusk 5/11/01 (13 hrs)Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 13+ hoursOther observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):
Tom Cheatham, 537 Cassidy Drive, Durango CO 81303. 970-382-018
(my husband); Shelley Cheatham (step daughter), same address

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

NoneLight conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):
Sunny day; saw bird in bright sun and light shade all day (shade under feeder.
(-see photo) from several angles -Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): Bushnell Binoculars 7-15x35 + w/naked eye.Distance, and how measured: 25' to nearest feeder - 40' to furthest feeder -If photographed, type of equipment and film: 200 ASA Vivitar 530P2 110 power zoomWho else photographed the bird? Shelley CheathamDescribe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying): Feeding
Feeding at oriole feeders near house (hung on trees); ~~flying~~ with several
Bullock's Orioles all day Friday, 5/11/01, at approx 45 minute intervals.
"Aked like an oriole" - was always at nectar feeders, never at seed.

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: approx 8" - Overall shape: more slender than Bullocks,
longish, ^{slightly} curved bill (see photo). Completely black head w/ black
unbroken down back. Black coming to a point at top of breast.
Breast orange w/ some yellow towards tail. No orange at all
on head. White wing bars, much narrower than Bullocks. Used
bill shape + size, black head + back, and narrow white wing
bars to identify. (See photo attached.)

Description (continued):

Overall appeared blacker & sleeker than Bullocks w/ less white on wings, no orange on head.

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

None given that I heard. The Bullock's Orioles called frequently - the "chuckachucka" warning call. This bird was much quieter.

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

Piñon/juniper wooded hill. Oak scrub (oaks not leafed out yet.) Arid. Bird would take nectar from oriole feeder, then fly to trees & reappear. Nectar feeders hung on trees on east side of house.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Bullock's Oriole has orange on head w/ black eye stripe, also wide white wing bars. Black-headed Grosbeak has fatter, shorter bill and orange on back. Appears stockier and shorter (stubbier).

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

Baltimore Oriole is common. Also grew up in northeastern South Dakota where Baltimore Orioles see them every year when I visit my parents in So. Dakota. Bullocks Orioles nest near my home and frequent the feeders. I have approx 3 breeding pairs of Bullocks. Black-headed grosbeaks also frequent my seed feeders & nest here, so

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

- a) at time of observation: Sibley Guide to Birds - to confirm sighting & eliminate other options (other ~~orioles~~ orioles in particular).
- b) after observation: Sibley, Peterson Guide to Western Birds, Kaufmans: to confirm & compare -

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

Date and time report was written: 5/16/01

Reporting observer: Cynthia Stengel Signature: Cynthia Stengel

Address: 537 Cassidy Drive, Durango, CO 81303

Return to:
Bill Prather
C.F.O. Official Records Committee
13810 WCR I
Longmont, Colorado 80504

I am familiar with all 3 bird species from long observation.



Scan of print taken by Cynthia Stengel — 2001-165