

Species: Broad-winged hawk
(Vernacular name)

Buteo platypterus
(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.

Date (s): February 23, 1978 Time Bird Seen: 12:30 to 1:30 P.M.

Locality: About 1ml. from lime plant west, which is about 10 miles west of Grantsville, Utah
Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: _____

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: _____

Light conditions: Good

Distance from bird, and how measured: Very tame & got as close as 8 feet.

Describe the bird's overall behavior: It was very tame after it flew on the top of the rock, it was just looking back at me I took few picture and movies. I was looking it over for about one hour.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird: It was at the North end of the mountains, mostly sage brush, few cedar mostly salt grass and rock outcrop.

Other observers who independently identified this bird. (Please list name and address):

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.

It was a small buteo. when I saw it first it flew above me and ~~could~~ its white body and under lining of its wings white. It flew rather peculiar way, I was looking at it from 10-8 ft. on the top of its head it was gray, stripe thru its eyes, otherwise its face of a light color. Yellowish patch on its throat small. Upper parts dark grayish-brown. On the wings there were 2-3 streaks of chocolate brown, about 1/4" wide. Body was white with patches of rufous yellowish about half way down the body on the both sides. Wing lining was white. Tail was grayish with several white narrow bands. Tail was short 1-2 feather missing. It had a minion on its right ^{eye}.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

silent.

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

I looked up in four different birds books and this is about the best guess I can make I though that perhaps this bird escaped from some falconier, but I have not heard of any.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

I believe I had seen young one captive in Michigan in 1973

This report was written from notes made during ___ after observation; from memory

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