

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE FOR U.F.O. RECORDS AND DOCUMENTATION CODES ONLY. 1982-09 ufo

Lat/long _____ Reporter _____ Sci Name _____
Habitat _____ Record type _____ Serial No. 1982-039
Date/time _____ Disposition _____ Cx Nos. _____

Common Name Scissor-tailed flycatcher
Scientific Name Tyrannus forficatus
Sight date 06/06/82 time 10:00 DST duration 1 MIN.
Distance from bird APPROX. 25 METERS
Light conditions BRIGHT SUN - OVERHEAD & TO THE RIGHT
Optical equip. NONE (EXCEPT MY EYES)
Photo. equip. NONE
Number of this species seen 1
Notes made at time of sighting ☒ Date this report was prepared.
Notes made later from memory ☐
Photo available ☐ Photo enclosed ☐ 08/25/82

Weather at time of this observation.

CLEAR
WIND CALM
T $\approx$ 15°C

Prior weather & number of days since change

A COLD FRONT HAD PASSED THROUGH
UTAH THE PREVIOUS DAY BRINGING CLOUD
& COOL WEATHER.

Locality

UTAH HIGHWAY 608 (EAST SIDE) WEST OF UTAH
LAKE (APPROX. MILE POST 25), UTAH CO, UTAH

Male ☐ Adult ☒ Age unk. ☒ Basic Plumage ☒ Light Phase ☐
Female ☐ Subadult ☐ ♀ or Imm ☐ Breeding ☐ Dark Phase ☐
Sex Unk. ☒ Juv/Imm ☐ _____ year bird ☐ Eclipse ☐ Molting ☐

Description of bird. Size, Colors, all field marks OBSERVED - Unique features of this bird, if any.

Size: Approx. 35-40 cm long, probably 2/3 of it, tail.

color: Head & back were pale gray, breast & belly were white,
tip of shoulder was dark salmon pink, flanks were pale
salmon pink, wings & tail were black.

Bill: dark, about 2 cm long, thick but pointed

UNIQUE FEATURES: Pale gray color, pink at shoulder & flanks,
length of tail.

Field marks which were not seen. Why not?

ABOUT HALF OF THE LENGTH OF THE
TAIL WAS OBSURED BY GREASEWOOD
(Sarcobatus vermiculatus)

Variations from expected field marks.

NONE

List similar species and describe why or how you eliminated them.

Western kingbirds were also present but their ventral areas were yellow, their dorsal areas dark gray to brown.

Behavior of this bird. Include names of other birds with this one and any interaction.

The bird was perched on a barbed wire strand of a fence on the east side of the highway & facing in toward the field. Western kingbirds & swallows (barn & cliff) were close by but there was no apparent interaction.

Habitat this location and near by or adjacent habitat if significant.

Alfalfa field enclosed by fence & surrounded by greasewood which gradually gave way to sagebrush (Artemisia tridentata)

Describe birds song or sounds.

NONE.

Names of other observers. A/C + phone #

SUSAN JOHNSON

1812 ALDER

RICHLAND, WA.

99352

(509) 943-6176

What is your experience with this or similar birds?

1ST TIME WITH THIS SPECIES.

EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE WITH WESTERN KINGBIRDS

Print name & mailing address below.

A. R. JOHNSON

1812 ALDER

RICHLAND, WA.

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A/C and Phone No. (509) 943-6176

Signature: Austin Ray Johnson

I met Mark Bromley at Beaver Dam Wash on 06/02/82 where he informed me that Clayton White & his field staff had observed a scissor-tailed flycatcher near Elberta about 1 week previously. He said they intended collecting the bird but did not know if it had been done. On 06/06/82 I decided to travel the west side of Utah Lake on my way from Delta, Utah to Salt Lake City. Unfortunately, I was also on the highway with a National Guard convoy at the time I spotted the flycatcher & therefore I was unable to get off the road for several miles so the sighting was brief. Fortunately, however, we were not travelling terribly fast due to the hills & turns & what I consider a rather heavy amount of traffic for that road.

ON JUNE 07, 1982 I called Merrill Webb to report the sighting, however it is my understanding that they were not successful in locating the bird. In talking to Dr. Pritchett of B.Y.U., I was informed that Dr. White did collect the flycatcher.