

## Appendix II

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS  
FOR  
THE UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES' RECORDS

Species: Northern Mockingbird; Mimus polyglottos  
(Common name) (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 birds 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): Mar 9 1984 Time Bird Seen: 5:00 PM to       

Locality: Back yard, near Hogle Zoo  
SKC UT.  
Nearest town, county and state

Optical equipment: 8 X 32 Leitz

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: —

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: — Plumage: Black, White, Gray

Light conditions: Dull, cloudy - Initially, looking toward sun location

Distance from bird, and how measured: 60 To 200 ft. Knowledge of property lines

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

First sitting quietly in 50' Ash Tree, then moved about for 2 minutes, then took off and landed in Chinese elm 200' away. Flight was direct; landing was sharp drop into tree.

APPENDIX II (Cont.)

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

*Open, deciduous trees, snow-covered brush*

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. 1. *Larger than starling or robin, which is what first attracted my attention.* 2. *Appeared mostly black, but then as he moved around noticed white underparts, particularly under long tail.* 3. *Long bill, bright eye almost like Brewer's B.B.* 4. *He flew away from me and I did not get a good view until he flared and landed, at which time I got spectacular view of white wing patches.* Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery--i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

*Starling & Robin, white underparts and eye*  
*Shrike, eye, bill, not that much white*

*Maggie } no way!*  
*Flicker }*

Prior experience with this and similar species:

*First sighting of this species*

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

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