

1-1985a

UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Verification of Unusual Sight Record

Species: Red-shouldered Hawk *Buteo lineatus* Date: Jan. 5,6 1985

Number: 1 Age: Sex:

Locality (exact address or other specific information to describe location, such as x miles north of x intersection):

County: Washington City: St. George Elevation: 2760

Time: Jan 5 4:30 PM Length of time observed: 1 hour
Jan 6 12:15 PM

Habitat: rural agricultural and riparian along the Virgin River

Distance to bird: variable Light conditions: clear, overcast
as close as 20 feet

Optical equipment: 15-60X scope binoculars
Observer: Richard and Ella Sorensen

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

This bird as first identified by Merrill Webb and Mark Bromley on the Saint George CBC.

DESCRIPTION. Write a detailed description of the bird's appearance, including size, shape, plumage pattern color, and any unique features.

Small *Buteo* with a long tail that extended well beyond the folded wings when the bird was perched. The tail was distinctly banded with several dark bands and several narrow whitish bands. In flight these white bands were very obvious especially when the bird was lighting. Also the white spots on the wings were very noticeable as were light areas at the base of the primaries. The breast and belly was buffy with light streaking.

Similar Species

Red-tailed Hawk-Tail proportionately shorter, bands on tail different-- dark bands smaller and less distinct. Doesn't usually show the pale windows at the base of primaries.

Accipitars fly different and have different silhouette.

Voice and/or call notes:

Behavior: Perched on poles and in trees. When it flew and attempted to land it would swoop up to perch in or on whatever.

Describe what specific feature(s) you saw and/or heard that caused you to come to your conclusions:

What similar species might it have been, and how were these eliminated?

See above

What experience have you had with this and similar species?

We have seen many Red tails, accipitars, and have seen Red-shouldered in California.

Books, illustrations, and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

None Paul Lehman verified the photograph as being a Red-shouldered Hawk

Significance of record in the area and/or the state:

Additional material (attach drawing, photograph, tape recording if available):

Photographs available which show diagnostic characteristics.

Signature:

Address:

Date prepared: