

1990 21+22

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18 JUNE 1990.

DEAR ELLA,

HERE ARE TWO MORE BIRD SIGHTINGS FOR THE
SPRING SEASON & DESCRIPTIONS OF THE TWO RUDDY
TURNSTONES I SAW.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER - 23 APRIL 1990 - HEARD ONE CALLING
IN THE JUNCTURE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF
STANBURY ISLAND, SAW 2 THE NEXT MORNING AT
THE SAME PLACE. I WAS ALONE AT THE TIME.

LEWIS' WOODPECKER - 16 MAY 1990 - SAW 1 PERCHED ON A PHONE POLE
AT THE NORTH END OF PROMONTORY POINT, ABOUT 2 MILES
NW OF GOLDEN SPEKE NATIONAL MONUMENT - SEEN BY 10
OTHERS ON A FIELD TRIP I WAS LEADING.

Ruddy Turnstone - on 23 May 1990 saw 1 in breeding
plumage at 15:30 on the south side of East
1990-21 Lake at Locomotive Springs. The bird was feeding
on mudflats adjacent to Great Salt Lake. Weather
was 20% clouds with light wind. I was able
to get within 70m of the bird, where I
viewed with a 22x spotting scope. The bird
was approximately 2 times larger than adjacent
Western Sandpipers, with bright orange legs, white belly,
mottled rufous/black wings & a black/white
'crown' face. I have seen 100's of Ruddy Turnstones,
so didn't think much of the observation until I
came out of the field and read about their
status in Utah. I was alone when I saw the bird.

- on 30 May 1990, I saw another Ruddy Turnstone
with Joe Engler at the north end of Fish Springs
1990-22 National Wetlands Refuge. Bird was first seen in
flight, exhibiting the distinctive black/white wing
pattern on the upper wing surface. We stopped the truck,
and viewed the bird through a 22x scope under good
light conditions, seeing 'crown' face, rufous/black wings,
white belly, & orange legs. No doubt about the
identity of the bird, viewed for 2-3 minutes.

Les Pat