

1-1997

UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD

Scientific Name: Calypte anna

Date: 29-30 MARCH, 97 Time: VARIOUS

Length of time observed: NUMEROUS SIGHTINGS  
OF SHORT AMOUNTS OF TIME WHILE FEEDING

Number: 1 Age: ADULT

Sex: MALE

Location: QUARTERS 26, BACKYARD AT FEEDER, ZION NATIONAL PARK

Lat/long:

Elevation (if known): JUST UNDER 4,000'

Distance to bird: VARIOUS; 10-20 FEET

Light conditions: BRIGHT SUNLIGHT FROM  
BEHIND ME.

Optical equipment: SWIFT AUDUBON 8.5 X 44 BINOCULARS, BUSHNELL SPACEMASTER  
60MM SCOPE WITH 22X WIDE ANGLE LENS, AND 20/20 VISION

Weather: BEAUTIFUL CLEAR SPRING DAY.

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

LARGER, BY DIRECT COMPARISON, THAN A MALE BLACKCHINNED  
ALSO VISITING FEEDER. GREEN BACK AND SIDES; GRAYISH  
BREAST & BELLY. DARK TAIL LACKING PATTERN OR STRONGLY  
CONTRASTING COLORS. BRILLIANT RED GORGET & FOREHEAD.

THE BIRD WAS OBSERVED BOTH HOVERING, AND MORE  
COMMONLY, PERCHED AT THE FEEDER.

Voice or call notes and method of delivery: NONE HEARD

Behavior: THE BIRD WOULD VISIT SPORADICALLY, ONCE OR TWICE PER HOUR. IT WOULD ZIP IN, NORMALLY PERCH, DRINK, AND THEN LEAVE, ALMOST ALWAYS IN THE SAME DIRECTION.

Habitat: OPEN CANYON WITH SMALL RIPARIAN CORRIDOR AND PINYON JUNIPER SLOPES.

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

- BLACK-CHINNED, ALSO PRESENT, HAS PURPLE AND BLACK THROAT AND IS NOTICABLY SMALLER.
- BROAD-TAILED HAS RED GORGET, BUT NOT CROWN, AND HAS LOUD CRICKET-LIKE TRILL OF WINGS WHEN FLYING, ABSENT IN THIS BIRD.
- COSTA'S IS SMALLER, GORGET MORE ELONGATE AND VIOLETS.

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

EXPERIENCE WITH LOCAL BROADTAILS, BLACKCHINNEDS, AND COSTA'S AS WELL AS EASTERN RUBY THROATS. RUFOUS HUMMERS PASS ~~THROUGH~~ THROUGH EN MASSE IN THE FALL.

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

I SAW THE BIRD, REALIZED IT WASN'T ONE OF OUR NORMAL BIRDS, MADE THE TENTATIVE ID WITH BINOCULARS, THEN GOT OUT PETERSON GUIDE, AUDUBON MASTER GUIDE, AND NATIONAL GEOG.

Significance of record in this area or the state:

I CHECKED BEHLE AND FOUND NO DEFINITE RECORDS, BUT THAT IT SHOULD BE EXPECTED OCCASIONALLY.

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

Description from notes taken at time of sighting \_\_\_\_\_ notes made later X from memory \_\_\_\_\_

Observer: M. SHANE PRUETT

Signature:

M. Shane Pruett

Address: PO BOX 252

SPRINGDALE UT 84767

BIRD STILL VISITING AT TIME OF THIS WRITING HOPE TO GET PHOTO.

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Date prepared: 3/30/97

Return this form to: Ella Sorensen  
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West Valley City, Utah 84120