

## UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

COMMON NAME: FIELD SPARROWSCIENTIFIC NAME: SPIZELLA pusillaDATE: JAN. 9, 1999 TIME: 1:20 P.M. LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED: 30-45 SEC.NUMBER: 1 AGE: ADULT SEX: UNKNOWNLOCATION: EAST OF LONDON BOAT HARBOR, N.E. EDGE OF UT. LAKELATILONG: #6 (40°15' 111°41' W approx.) ELEVATION: approx. 4500'DISTANCE TO BIRD: 25-30 FEETWEATHER: COLD (35-40°)LIGHT CONDITIONS: CLEARDETAILED DESCRIPTION OF BIRD: Sparrow-sized, slightly smaller than tree sparrowDistinct eye ring (white)Bill was light colored (pinkish-yellow), both upper & lower mandiblesCrown was rust colored diffused with small amount of gray.Face was gray with no post ocular stripeBelly, breast & flanks were grayish-white with no central breast spot.I did not see the back until it flew away, but it was streaked with light & dark stripes.The bird was not as richly colored (grayer overall) as the tree sparrows. Provided a good comparison.

SONG OR CALL AND METHOD OF DELIVERY: *Tsip, but not sure if it came from this sparrow or 2 tree sparrows with it in same small tree.*

BEHAVIOR:

*Perched on limb, feathers fluffed out to insulate from cold probably. Then unfluffed the feathers about 5 sec. before it flew away.*

HABITAT:

*Weedy & brushy under tall cottonwood trees. It was perched in a small Russian olive tree on a bank east<sup>of</sup> above a stream.*

SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW WERE THEY ELIMINATED:

*Not a tree sparrow because two were there (one in the same view field) to compare it with.*

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILAR SPECIES:

*Have seen this species in New Jersey  
Have seen tree sparrows almost every winter in ut. County.*

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

*Peterson's Field Guide to Western Birds, National Geographic Society's Birds of North America, 2nd ed., & The Sparrows of the United States & Canada by Rising*

DESCRIPTION FROM: NOTES TAKEN AT TIME OF SIGHTING \_\_\_\_\_, NOTES MADE LATER \_\_\_\_\_

FROM MEMORY X

OBSERVER: *MERRILL WEBB*

SIGNATURE: *Merrill Webb*

ADDRESS: *1063 East 400 No.*

CITY: *Orem*

STATE: *ut*

ZIP: *84097*

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD:

*None (on that day), but about 20-25 on day following.*

DATE PREPARED: *DEC. 10, 1999*

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL: PHOTO \_\_\_\_\_, DRAWING \_\_\_\_\_, TAPE \_\_\_\_\_, OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN THIS FORM TO:

UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
P.O. BOX 1042  
CEDAR CITY, UT 84721-1042