

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE. FOR UTAH BIRD RECORDS CODING ONLY.

Lat/long \_\_\_\_\_ Record type \_\_\_\_\_ Serial No. 83-060  
 Habitat \_\_\_\_\_ Disposition \_\_\_\_\_ Cx Nos. \_\_\_\_\_

Common Name Mountain Plover  
 Scientific Name Eupoda montana  
 Obs. date 8/31, 9/1 /83 Time(s) aprox. 6:30 PM, 2 PM  
 Duration of obs. 20 min., 1 hr.  
 Distance from bird closest = 75 feet on both occasions  
 Light conditions fairly good (mostly sunny both days)  
 Optical equip. 9X binocs and 20X scope (Bushnell)  
 Photo equip. 300mm lens on Minolta-SR-200 camera

Weather at time of this observation.

8/31 mostly sunny, fair

9/1 occasional sprinkles but some direct sun

Prior weather and number of days since change.

?

Locality Aprox. 5 mi. southwest of Provo along south edge of Utah Lake (during flood stage)

Notes made at time of sighting \_\_\_\_\_ Date report prepared \_\_\_\_\_

Notes made later from memory X 10/21/83 (notes written in notebook 2hr after 1st sighting)

Enter number of birds in each category.	GENDER(S)	AGES(S)	PLUMAGE(S)	PHOTO(S)
Total number observed.	Males _____	Adults _____	Breeding _____ Transition <u>1</u>	Available _____
<u>1</u>	Females _____	Juv/Imms _____	Eclipse _____ Dark phase _____	Enclosed <u>x</u>
	♀ or Imms _____	2/3 yr birds _____	Winter _____ Light ph. _____	<i>(not good quality)</i>
	Unknowns <u>1</u>	Unknowns <u>1</u>	Other _____	

Description of bird: Size, colors, all field marks OBSERVED. - Unique features of this individual, if any.

Stocky-looking Killdeer-sized bird, definite plover shape and behavior (run and stop, pick at ground, etc.), tawny brown above, grayish white below, no black neck ring, white eyebrow stripe, dark bill (thin for golden/black-bellied plovers), some "smudged" brown coloration around collar area and upper breast (but not as noticeable as illustrated for winter plumage in field guides), legs gray. Bigger head and somewhat of a no-neck appearance compared to killdeer and semi-palmated plovers with which it was seen.

In flight (seen only on 2cd date), a narrow but conspicuous white wing stripe and a broad black band near the end of the tail were noted. The general tail pattern appeared identical to that illustrated on p. 111 in Robbins et. al.

The back of the bird was lighter brown than either killdeers or semi-pal. plovers with which direct comparison was possible. The back color was uniform as in these other species, no sign of light flecking as in golden/black-bellied plovers.

Field marks which were not seen. Why not?

NONE

Variations from expected field marks.

Appeared in transition between summer and winter plumages depicted in field guide. This is not really unexpected given date of sighting.

List similar species and describe why or how you eliminated them.

All Charadrius have neck rings or are smaller (Snowy Plover)  
Golden/Black-bellies have light flecks on back and very different tail pattern.

Nothing native to North America is really that similar.

Behavior of this bird. Other species seen with this one. Any interaction between birds?

Very distinctive "tip up" behavior: the bird repeatedly would elevate the body onto a more vertical plane, raising its head and neck especially, then return to normal posture. A "tip-up" occurred in a time frame of about one second, then another might occur 15-60 seconds later.

No interactions with other species were noted, though the bird once flushed with killdeer. Contrary to the description of Robbins et. al., this bird readily flushed at a distance of 75 feet. I could approach nearly all other species more closely.

Habitat at this location. Adjacent or near by habitat, if significant.

flooded pasture/rangeland, lots of mudflats and shallow pools nearby. The bird was seen on both occasions on an island mudflat which observers had to wade to reach. Many dry hayfields nearby.

Describe bird's song or sounds.

None heard

Print reporter's name, address, phone number.

David L. Fischer  
177 Starcrest Drive  
Orem, UT 84058

(Also observed by M. Webb and reported separately)

Signature *David L. Fischer*

What is your experience with this or similar birds?

I have much experience with shorebirds, led birding tours for Massachusetts Audubon at shorebirding areas on Cape Cod. I have no experience with Mountain Plovers.

Corroborating observers not reporting separately.

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_