

UTAH FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS
SIGNIFICANT SIGHTING RECORD DOCUMENTATION

1983-26 ufo

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE FOR U.F.O. RECORDS AND DOCUMENTATION CODES ONLY.

Lat/long _____ Reporter _____ 'Sci Name _____
Habitat _____ Record type _____ Serial No. 83-039
Date/time _____ Disposition _____ Cx Nos. _____

Common Name Harris' Sparrow
Scientific Name Zonotrichia querula
Sight date 9/12/83 time 1:30 PM duration 1 minute
Distance from bird 25 feet
Light conditions Sunny, scattered clouds
Optical equip. 10 x 50 wide angle lens
Photo. equip. _____
Number of this species seen 1
Notes made at time of sighting Date this report was prepared. _____
Notes made later from memory _____
Photo available Photo enclosed 9/13/83

Weather at time of this observation.
Clear, sunny, occasional small clouds
Prior weather & number of days since change
Clear weather for a week or longer.
Locality
Bear River Wildlife Refuge. In trees next to headquarters Bldg.

Male Adult Age unk. Basic Plumage Light Phase
Female Subadult ♀ or Imm Breeding Dark Phase
Sex Unk. Juv/Imm 1st year bird Eclipse Molting

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

Large Sparrow with large pinkish orange bill.
Head finely streaked, side of face & cheek brownish.
Throat clear, a little blotchy streaking on breast.
Some streaking along side. Back streaked.
Belly clear - pale sand color (same as throat)

ATTACH ADDITIONAL NOTES, LISTS OF REFERENCES, SKETCHES FROM LIFE, PHOTOGRAPHS ETC.

Field marks which were not seen. Why not?

Forked tail. Was facing us or moved with tail behind leaves.

Variations from expected field marks.

cheeks not buffy but brownish. Seemed very immature.

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

Larger than House Sparrow. Large orangish bill was especially noticeable.

Behavior of this bird. Include names of other birds with this one and any interaction.

Had been bathing & was noticed when it flew into a small tree near the canal. Flew into another larger tree when I approached & stayed there for a couple of minutes - not always in view.

Habitat this location and near by or adjacent habitat if significant.

Describe birds song or sounds.

Names of other observers. A/C + phone #

JANA B. MCKINNEY
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What is your experience with this or similar birds?

Have seen two immature birds in Calif. Saw one as it was going into breeding plumage in spring, as well as earlier. They occasionally show up at feeders in our area in the winter.

Print name & mailing address below.

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Signature: Winifred J. Orcutt