

UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Verification of Unusual Sight Record

Common Name: Acorn Woodpecker Scientific Name: _____
 Date: May 8, 1985 Time: about Length of time observed: 15-30 seconds
 Number: 1 Age: adult Sex:

Location: along the road on Kolob Terrace

Lat/Long: ? Elevation: see notes from Steve Hedges

Distance to bird: ~100 yds Light conditions: excellent - bird was in
 direct sun with sun behind
 me
 Optical equipment: 7x25 Bushnell binocs

Weather: clear

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

A black + white woodpecker with prominent white head + face patches, white wing patches in flight. Red on ^{top} back of head. ~~Red on back of head.~~
 white patch of face + forehead not including the eye as it would be in white-h Wp.

Voice or call notes:

it did not call that I heard

Behavior:

sitting woodpecker-like on a snag - being harrassed by
withatches

Habitat:

scattered Pines in scrub oaks at the edge of
mountain ravine

Describe what specific features you saw or heard that caused you to reach your conclusion:

There is hardly a more strikingly marked fore-
woodpecker in N.A. with its white face & head
patches, prominent black eye ^{patch} & red patch ^{top} on back of
the head

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

The only possible species it could be confused
with was White headed Woodpecker. This bird
possibility was noted & discounted on the basis of the
amount of white on the head & the black markings limiting
the white facial & head patches.

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

I live 100 miles from where Acorn Wpkr is resident & have
known the bird extensively for 25 yrs. I've seen white-headed
woodpecker on numerous occasions in Calif.

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

none - the books were reviewed days later


Significance of record in this area or the state:

I understand that there are no previously accepted records.

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

Observer: James A. Tucker

Signature:



Address: Box 4335, Austin TX 78765

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Dr Robert Bond
Mr Steve Hedges

Date prepared: May 10, 1985

Return this form to: Utah Ornithological Society
C/O Ella Sorensen
3868 Marsha Drive
West Valley City, Utah 84120