

UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Verification of Unusual Sight Record

Species: Ovenbird Date: Sept. 6, 1985
 Number: one Age: ? Sex: ?
 Locality (exact address or other specific information to describe location,
 such as x miles north of x intersection):
 Kaufman Ranch, 23 miles north of Milford
 County: Millard City: / Elevation: ?
 Time: late afternoon Length of time observed: 15-20 seconds
 Habitat: Oasis of deciduous trees, bushes, etc. in desert
 Distance to bird: 20-25 feet Light conditions: fair
 Optical equipment: Zeiss 10x40 B
 Observer: Paul Lehman
 Other observers who independently identified this bird:

none

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

Copied from field notes taken day of sighting:

First seen as flushed up from ground and perched on branch; a plump, short-tailed warbler with unmarked pale olive upperparts, eyering, bold black spots on white underparts, and flesh legs; crown could not be seen due to angle. Bird flew off and could not be relocated.

Voice and/or call notes: none

Behavior: flushed from ground, sat generally motionless on branch, then flew off

Describe what specific feature(s) you saw and/or heard that caused you to come to your conclusions:

distinctive plump shape and large wing size, facial pattern, color of upperparts, and bold black spots on underparts immediately distinctive, even if orange crown patch not seen due to angle

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

no similar species

What experience have you had with this and similar species?

have seen many hundreds

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

none

Significance of record in the area and/or the state:

a casual migrant (probably very rare but regular)

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

Signature: Paul Lehman

Address: PO Box 1061, Geleta, Calif. 93116

Date prepared:

12/25/85