

10-1986

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• VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: Acorn Woodpecker Scientific Name: *Melanerpes formicivora*
 Date: 8 Oct. 1986 Time: 1000-1200 Length of time observed: several times over
 Number: 2 Age: ? Sex: 2 hr. period
 Location: Coral Pink sand Dunes, Kane Co., UT. Near Ponderosa
 Grove Picnic Area, 3 mi. NE of state park headquarters
 Latilong: 20 Elevation (if known):
 Distance to bird: 60 ft. + Light conditions: good
 Optical equipment: 7x35 binocs
 Weather: Partly cloudy, 70°

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

Length of bird was about 8". Shape was similar to other woodpeckers. Plumage was black except for a white rump, white patch at base of primaries (observed when bird was flying), & white face extending from throat & lower cheek ~~to~~ to forehead. Chin & bill black. Belly mostly white. Eye yellowish.

Voice or call notes and method of delivery: Call note - a fairly loud "toit", usually a single call note.

Behavior: Birds were observed flying between ponderosa pine snags or sitting near top of snags.

Habitat: Sand dunes with scattered ponderosa pine.

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:

Numerous sightings in Cal. & Ariz. 2 previous Utah sightings including 1 at this site last year.

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

none

Significance of record in this area or the state:

5th state record

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

Description from notes taken at time of sighting notes made later from memory

Observer: Steven Hedges Signature: Steven P. Hedges

Address: 889 S. Cedar Knolls W.
cedar city, UT 84720

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Blaine Lunceford

Date prepared: 30 Oct. 1986

Return this form to: Ella Sorensen
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