

15-1991

UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

15-1991

VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: Hooded Oriole Scientific Name: *Icterus cucullatus*
 Date: MAR. 21, 1991 Time: 9:15 AM Length of time observed: 3 min
 Number: 1 Age: winter adult Sex: ♂
 Location: Hummingbird feeder in Kayville, Utah

Latilong: 2 Elevation (if known): 4,600 ft
 Distance to bird: 6 ft. to 30 yds Light conditions: SHITTY to good
 Optical equipment: Eyes, 400 mm Camera lens, 10x40 BINOS
 Weather: Cold / Clear

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

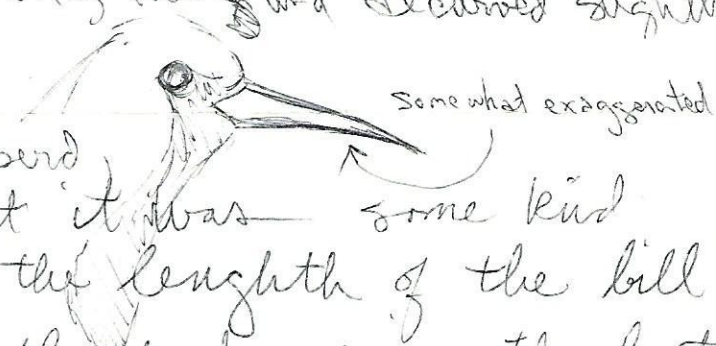
SMALLISH ORIOLE with clear orange head, nape, side of face (auriculars), sides, lower breast, belly, undertail coverts and rump.

Black bib, throat, chin, face under and in front of eye and lores.

TAIL BLACK dorsally. Wings black with flight feathers edged in white. (?) white wing bars on greater & median wing coverts

Back also black with lighter edging to feathers giving it a scalloped appearance.

Eye black, Bill black ~~also~~ long thing and decurved slightly
 Legs dark



The person who first saw the bird, owner of the feeder, thought that it was some kind of hummingbird because of the length of the bill. The bird had been visiting the feeder since the last week in February.

Voice or call notes and method of delivery: None heard

Behavior: Would visit Hummingbird feeder then return to evergreen shrubs for cover

Habitat: Suburban backyard - well-planted, with finch feeders, platform feeders, and a h.b. feeder.

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

Altamira oriole - too large, bill thicker, orange shoulder patch
Northern oriole - even 1st spring & winter ♂ has dark up nape to crown, tail has orange on sides & wing bars are usually joined to form a wide white patch
Black bill differently shaped.
Orchard oriole 1st spring ♂ - more yellow with smaller bill, tail & back greenish not black

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

Hooped in summer - very familiar - none in winter plumage
Altamira & Orchard - no experience
Northern - very familiar

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

Nat. Geo., Audubon's master guide - description taken at time of sighting

Significance of record in this area or the state:

Out of range, out of season

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

Photograph - but strongly back-lighted

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

Observer: CRAIG L. KNEEDY

Signature:

Address: 314 S. 4500 W.

West point, Utah

84015



Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Date prepared:

6/18/91

Return this form to:

Ella Sorensen
3868 Marsha Drive
West Valley City, Utah 84120