

UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: Golden-crowned Sparrow Scientific Name: *Zonotrichia atricapilla*

Date: Oct 14 1993 Time: 1 P.M. Length of time observed: 4 minutes

Number: 1 Age: Sex:

Location: Black Rock, Kaufman ranch  
23 miles north of Milford

Latilong: Elevation (if known):

Distance to bird: 40 feet Light conditions: good

Optical equipment: 8x42 Elite binoculars

Weather: good

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

The bird presented head toward us  
the front portion of the crown was grapefruit yellow,  
bordered on each side by dark stripes  
dark bill  
breast unstreaked  
two white wing bars  
side of face brown without strong markings  
upperparts mottled brown and black

Voice or call notes and method of delivery:

Behavior: Was in underbrush / Russian olive adjacent to small pond ~~near~~ at desert oasis.  
Would hop up on fence wire, into underbrush, into  
Habitat: Russian Olive

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

The only similar species is white-crowned.  
immature has brownish not grapefruit yellow crown  
vs face marking less contrasty

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

I have seen innumerable white-crowned immature + mature  
and have seen golden-crowned in California as well as  
at Jerome Gifford's feeder in Springdale

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

none

Significance of record in this area or the state:

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

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

Observer: Ella Sorensen

Signature: 

Address: 3868 Marsha Dr  
West Valley City UT  
84120

Other observers who independently identified this bird: Craig Kneedy

Date prepared: 1/2/94

Return this form to: Ella Sorensen  
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