

Species: Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Tryngites subruficollis

Date: 25 May 1992, approx. 10:30 a.m. (late date)

Location: Sand Point on Coralville Reservoir, Johnson Co., Iowa

Other Obs: Tom Kent

Description: Medium-sized sandpiper distinctive at first glance.

Slightly smaller than adjacent Pectoral Sandpipers (Calidris melanotos). Bill thinner, straight, and shorter than headlength.

Head and underparts unpatterned warm buff. Back darker mottled brown. Legs pale, exact color not clear. Feeding in grass and shallow water at edge of pool.

Conditions: Overcast, cool, calm. Observed 5-10 minutes from 40-50 meters with Zeiss 10x40 binoculars and 15x and 30x telescopes.

Similar Species: Really unmistakable in spring.

Previous Experience: Ten years' experience with this species on the upper Texas coast and Iowa.

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