

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species: Buff-breasted Sandpiper

Number: 1 juv.

Date: 15, 18 Oct 1990

Time: last seen at 3:45 p.m. on 18 Oct

Location: Saylorville Reservoir, Polk Co.-Sandpiper Beach

Observer(s): Stephen J. Dinsmore 4024 Arkansas Dr., Ames

Other observer(s):

Description of bird(s): A fairly small shorebird with a very upright posture. Bird observed walking around on sandy area away from water. The head was proportionately very small, with a thin neck. The head, breast, and upperparts were a warm buff color. The upperparts had a scaly look due to pale feather edgings, particularly on the scapulars. The undertail coverts were whitish. The legs were yellow and of medium length. The bill was dark, short, and slender. Based on the lighter feather edgings, I concluded that the bird was a juvenile.

Similar species and how eliminated: No other shorebird has a buffy appearance, yellow legs, a small head, and a bill like this bird.

Optical equipment and viewing conditions: Viewing conditions were excellent. Estimated viewing distance as close as 75 feet. I used a Bushnell 20-45x spotting scope.

References consulted: none

Previous experience with species: I have seen many Buff-breasted Sandpipers in Iowa, including good numbers in fall 1990.

How long before field notes written? none written

How long before this form completed? 4 hours