

Records Committee, Iowa Ornithologists' Union

Printed: 11/20/00

Pine Grosbeak

27 Feb 1995

Spencer, Clay Co., IA

*Schoenewe, *Fuller, *Kent

P-0446, IBL 65:78, 66:97

Record Number: 95-23

Classification: A-P

DOCUMENTATIONS

Lee A. Schoenewe (27 Feb), 518 W. 4th St., Spencer 51301
[*8/14/95]

Jim Fuller (2 Mar), 6 Longview Knoll NE, Iowa City 52240

Thomas H. Kent (2 Mar), 211 Richards St., Iowa City 52246

PHOTOGRAPH

T. H. Kent, P-0446

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 65:78

Records Committee: IBL 66:97

VOTE: 7 A-P

A-P, Good photo.



Pine Grosbeak
Spencer, Clay Co., IA
2 Mar 1994 T. H. Kent

P-0446

95-23

>020 19+02 2EBNN-179U 156

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species How many? PINE GROSBREAK - 2
 Location? RIVERSIDE CEMETARY + RESIDENCE AT PROSPECT DR., SPENCER
 Type of habitat? PINE TREES + ASH TREES IN SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD + CEMETARY
 When? date(s): 2/27/95 Time: . 7:40 AM + 4:45 - 5:05 PM
 Who? your name and address
 LEE A. SCHONEWE 518 W. 4TH ST. SPENCER, IA 51301

Others with you DOW HARR

Others before and after you JUDY KNIGHT, EUGENE + ELOISE ARMSTRONG

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also describe voice and behavior.

OBSERVED ROBIN-SIZED BIRD CALLING FROM TOP OF PINE TREE - CHEE-CHEW-CHEW CALL. TWO BIRDS THEN FLEW INTO A BARE DECIDUOUS TREE. THE BIRDS HAD COMPARATIVELY LARGE BODIES, SMALL ROUND HEADS W/ LARGE, HEAVY, DARK BILLS AND LONG TAILS NOTCHED IN A "V" AT THE TIP. THE PLUMAGE FROM UNDERNEATH WAS GRAY AND THERE WERE TWO WHITE WING BARS. LATER IN THE DAY THE BIRDS WERE OBSERVED FEEDING ON SEEDS IN A GREEN ASH TREE AND THE GREENISH-GOLD COLOR ON THE HEAD, NAPE AND RUMP COULD BE SEEN. ONE BIRD APPEARED MORE RUSSET THAN THE OTHER AND WAS JUDGED AN IM. MALE.

Similar species and how eliminated: WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL: BILL SHAPE, SIZE + LONG TAIL

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification?

If yes, explain: NO

Viewing conditions: lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: OVERCAST; 20-100 YDS; 8X40 BINOCULARS

Previous experience with this species and similar ones:

NONE

References and persons consulted before writing description:

PETERSON + NAT'L GEOGRAPHIC FIELD GUIDES

How long before field notes made? IMMEDIATELY
 this form completed? 1 DAY

Mail original form to field editor for this season.

95-23

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD

SPECIES: Pine Grosbeak (2 Female or Immature)

LOCATION: In ash tree at 515 West Lane, Spencer (Clay Co.)

DATE & TIME: 2 March, 1995 (11:30-11:45 AM)

OBSERVER: Jim Fuller, 6 Longview Knoll NE, Iowa City, Iowa, 52240

OTHERS: With me were Tom Kent and Dick Tetrault. Discovered by Sheldon & Mary Olson and also seen by Judy Knight, Lee Schoenewe, and Tim Schantz (Before) and Jim Scheib (After).

BACKGROUND: Two female Pine Grosbeaks were reported to be eating ash seeds at 507 Prospect Drive in Spencer on 25 Feb., by the home owners, Sheldon and Mary Olson. The birds were found again nearby on 27 Feb. We arrived at about 10:30 AM, and located two birds an hour later about a block west of the original location at %15 West Lane. These birds were also in an ash tree eating seeds.

DESCRIPTION: The two birds were smaller than a Robin and larger than a House Sparrow. They were heavy bodied, with a long tail and short bill. Their overall coloration was gray, but each had some color on the head, nape, and neck. The color of one was a yellow-orange, while the other was more reddish-orange. Their rumps also had this color. There were two narrow, but distinct white wing bars, and the wing, as well as the tail was blackish. The tail was long and notched. The head was rounded, and the bill, was quite thick but short. The eye was dark. No vocalization was heard.

SIMILAR SPECIES: The birds were larger than either Crossbill, and did not have as large a wingbars, as large a bill, or the extent of yellow or yellow-gray that is present on an Evening Grosbeak.

VIEWING CONDITIONS & OPTICS: The birds were seen during the middle of a sunny day. I was using Swift Audubon binoculars (8.5 X 44) looking toward the north and northwest at a distance of about 40 feet.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE: I have seen only one other bird of this species in Iowa, but have seen them a number of times in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the west.

REFERENCES & FIELD NOTES: Field notes were made the evening of the sighting, and a National Geographic Guide was consulted. This form was typed on 5 March.

DOCUMENTATION OF EXTRAORDINARY BIRD SIGHTING

Species: Pine Grosbeak; **Number:** 2 female/imm.

Location: Spencer, IA

Date: 2 March 1995; **Time:** 11:40 to 11:55 a.m.

Name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246.

Others before/with/after: Tim Schantz, Lee Schoenewe, and others before; Jim Fuller and Dick Tetrault with me.

Habitat and circumstances: residential area near cemetery; feeding in ash tree.

Description of bird: Both birds were feeding on the ash tree. They were overall a rather dark gray. They had two thin white wing bars. The top of the head to side of face and rump were gold-rust, more gold on one bird and more rust on the other. The eye was dark. The thick conical short bill was black. The tail was long, dark, and notched. The birds were approximately the size of a cardinal. After feeding for a while they flew into a dense evergreen.

Voice: not heard.

Similar species: none

Any one have reservations?: no

Light: sunny day with sun behind us. **Distance:** 30 feet; **Optics:** 10x binocular; 410 mm camera lens.

Previous experience: have seen in MN, CO, AK, and IA

References before/after viewing: looked at National Geographic Guide while viewing.

Time of notes: during viewing; **Final typing:** 2 days