

Rock Wren
22 Jun 1898
Sioux City, Woodbury Co., IA
Guy C. Rich
Anderson 1907

Record Number: 93-HY
Classification: NA

REFERENCE

Anderson 1907

VOTE: 5 NA

NA, I am including these old Rich records because I did not include them in the review of this species in 1981. I wanted to get them recorded in the file for future reference. The June 25, 1898 record was not accepted and there is no data on this record other than that the birds were shot. Did they belong to the nest that was "badly" incubated? I feel confident that Rich saw Rock Wrens, but he left us no good evidence./thk

Rock Wren

329. (715). *Salpinctes obsoletus* (Say). Rock Wren.

Anderson 1907

The Rock Wren is a Western bird which has very rarely been observed in Iowa. It was first recorded from Iowa by T. Martin Trippe, who took a specimen in October, and saw several others, in Decatur county (Proc. Bost. Soc., xv, 1872, p. 236). He states: "It was seen on several occasions, far out on the prairie, running over the ties on the railroad track, retreating, when alarmed, into the dense prairie grass" (Am. Nat., 1873, p. 566). This record is also quoted by Coues, Birds of the Colo. Val., p. 161; Birds of the N. W., p. 28; Key to N. A. Birds, p. 276; Baird, Brewer, and Ridgway, Land Birds, iii, p. 503; Cooke, Bird Migr. in Miss. Val., p. 270; Keyes and Williams, Birds of Iowa, p. 157; Goss, Birds of Kansas, p. 606.

Dr. Guy C. Rich writes from Sioux City: "The Rock Wrens were here and bred for two or three years, but I have not seen them now for several years. A nest of eggs were discovered on June 25, 1898, badly incubated. On May 28, 1899, the birds were again seen. On June 1, 1899, I saw two and possibly three birds. They sing a great deal. Found no nest, though. I thought them to be breeding. On June 10, 1900, the birds were discovered in another deep dirt-cut along railroad; no nest found. On September 15, 1901, had a bird brought in from another locality. I have also seen the measurements of two birds shot June 22, 1898."]