

Western Tanager

Record Number: 93-17

10 May 1993

Classification: A-D

Lime Creek Nature Center, Cerro Gordo Co., IA

*Curt Nelson

IBL 63:79, 64:68

DOCUMENTATION

Curt Nelson, RR4, Mason City [11/27/93]

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 63:79

Records Committee: IBL 64:68

VOTE: 7 A-D

A-D, Good description of Western Tanager.

93-17

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

Species Western Tanager
 Location Cerro Gordo Co. Lime Creek Nature Center Woods
 Habitat Woods ; small clearing near a small stream
 Date(s) 10 May 1993 Time 5:30 to 5:35 (est)
 Name and Address Curt Nelson RR4 Mason City
 Other observers Fred Heinz, earlier in the day

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

Medium sized bird, noticeably larger than nearby warblers. Striking combination of red head & face, yellow neck, rum and under side, and back & wings black with 2 wing bars. Bill was heavy, not sharply pointed. Red area was confined to the face, rather neat appearing without seeming "patchy". The bird was quite active. Flying from tree to tree but staying fairly low (6ft to 15ft. est) It was silent the entire time.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Juvenile or Moltling Scarlet Tanager. - The yellow areas were very bright and clear without any suggestion of a greenish tint. Red area was neatly confined to the head & face.
~~1st yr. Summer tanager~~ - same as above

Did anyone disagree or have reservations about identification? I was alone

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: Clear day, 50-60 ft. est. Bausch & Lomb 9x35

Previous experience with species and similar ones: I have seen Western tanagers in Idaho & Colorado on 3 separate occasions

References and persons consulted before writing description: Peterson West & Audubon Master Guide National Geographic

How long before field notes made? 30 min. How long before this form completed? 1 day