

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

3/4/81
accepted
by Field
Report Editor etc

Species Pine Grosbeak (male) 2. Number: 1

3. Location Ames, Iowa

Bird present December 7-11, seen by this 2:30 PM on the 7th

4. Date: observer on 7th & 11th 5. Time Bird seen: 12:25 PM on the 11th

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field): The bird was robin size with a red head, nape of the neck and breast to the legs. The red had a grayish hue. Above and below where the wing attached to the body was gray. The flank section of the bird under the tail was gray. One prominent white wing bar with top two primaries having white edging. The beak was short > and of a dark color. The tail was notched. The wings were of a dark color.

7. Description of voice, if heard: none

8. Description of behavior: Birding eating Honeysuckle berries in thick brush and also feeding in a crabapple tree on the fruit. The beak was covered with with berries

9. Habitat - general: edge of housing area with church
specific: honeysuckle hedge yard

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:
Purple finch - does not have white wing bar and is much smaller in size

11. Distance (how measured)? ten feet (estimate)

12. Optical equipment:
Bushnell 8X40 binoculars

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
on 7th, overcast & raining; on 11th, sunny & bright, sun on right

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
Yellowstone National Park

15. Other observers: Joe Schaufenbuel on the 7th with me
Dick Mooney & Gene Armstrong on the 8th

16. Did the others agree with your identification? Yes

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: Dick Mooney, Gene Armstrong,
Paul Martsching

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
Golden Field Guide

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? two days

Signature

Hank Zuleta

Address: 667 Pammel Ct.

Date: December 13, 1980 City, State: Ames, Iowa 50010