

Subject: OBRC Rare Bird Report
From: Ross.w.wood@gmail.com
Date: Sun, 16 Jan 2011 10:49:53 -0700
To: obrc@ofc.ca

OBRC Rare Bird Report

Date received: Sunday January 16, 2011
 Received from: [Ross Wood \[Ross.w.wood@gmail.com\]](mailto:Ross.w.wood@gmail.com)
 IP Address: 24.141.165.138

Reporting Observer

Name: Ross Wood
 Address: 2424 Overton Drive
 City: Burlington
 Province: Ontario
 Postal Code: L7P 4B5
 Email: Ross.w.wood@gmail.com
 Phone: (905)220-6987
 Original finder's name and address if known: Myself
 Other observers' names and addresses: Avery Bartels- Averybartels@hotmail.com
 Ed Conrad
 Neil Pearson
 Rebecca Wilcox

Report Details

Species,select one: Hooded Oriole
 or other species not on list:
 Number: 1
 Age: Hatch Year
 Sex: male
 Date you saw it using this format: 25 January 2010: 8 November 2010
 Time of day seen: 11:45am
 Duration of observation (give times): seen on and off from 11:45 to approximately 1:15pm
 First and last dates bird(s) known to be in area: 8 october 2010, one day.
 Exact location seen: Tip Of Long Point, at the base of the lighthouse pad.
 GPS if available:
 Habitat:
 Weather conditions: NE wind 7 degrees and clear skys all day.
 Kind of lighting on bird: first silhouetted by the sun then in direct sun light
 Observer's distance from bird: as slose as 10m
 Optics used: Eagle Optics Rangers 10X42
 Photographs taken?: Yes
 Video taken?:
 Illustration made?:
 Date this report written: 16 January 2011

General Observations

1) Circumstances of the observation: First located perched on top of a 5m tall, leafless cotton wood but was more or less just a silhouette in the sun. A better angle was obtained and was now in direct sunlight. Others were called to the scene and we watched it as it changed perches

several times before losing sight of it as it was moving west back down the point. We searched the whole area west and did not re-find it until coming back when it was found perched in the exact same spot that it had been seen originally. It moved around quite a bit, between several perches and into the phragmites. At about 1:15 it made its last flight into the phragmites and we assumed it would re-emerge as it had a few times already, but it was never seen again.

2) Description.

At first it was just a silhouette, but the long tail and slightly down-curved beak caught my attention immediately. The bird appeared to be 8", my immediate thoughts were something is not right with that catbird. Once better lighting was obtained, it was very easy to see all features. The overall colour of a yellow-orange and the black bib were the first major field marks that were noted. The white in the upper wing bar or median coverts was very prominent, there was a much less obvious second wing bar. The rest of the wing was predominately gray-black. The particularly long tail was a dusky washed yellowish-orange.

3) How were similar species eliminated?

Adult female Streak-backed Oriole- was eliminated because our bird had a prominent upper wing bar, downward curved bill and lacked streaking in the back. HY male Bullock's Oriole- The belly of the bird was one toned yellow-orange and lacked the eye line of the Bullock's.

Orchard Oriole- the birds larger size and larger bill were obvious. Also the warm orange colour coming through the yellow on our bird was unlike the chestnut orange that a maturing male Orchard would have. Again with the leading wing bar being much more obvious was unlike Orchard as well.

Altamira and Spot-breasted Orioles- both eliminated by their bigger size and orange median coverts.

4) Experience with claimed species

I have seen a few individuals in Mexico prior to the sighting and since.

5) Field guides/references consulted

Sibley and national geographic field guides were consulted immediately. We were not 100% sure of the age or possibly the sub-species of the bird at first due to the amount of orange it seemed to be showing, Mike Burrell posted some pictures on ID frontiers. Consensus seemed to be that it was indeed a young male and that sub-species was not able to be identified at this age in the field.

6) Any additional commentary/analysis

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Description made from Notes made after observation