

# Bird Studies Canada/ Long Point Bird Observatory

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www.birdscanada.org/longpoint



## RARITY REPORT

In order that any sight record or banding of a rare species can be accepted for the historical record, it must be properly documented. LPBO co-operators are therefore asked to complete a form in every case where a rarity is being claimed. Guidance as to which species are considered rare in the Long Point area may be obtained from the Landbirds Program Manager. Each observer should prepare his/her description independently and preferably before consulting any field guides or other literature. PLEASE PRINT.

**Species claimed:** Cassin's Sparrow (*Aimophila cassinii*)

**No. of birds:** 1 **Age:** After Hatch-year **Sex:** U

**Date(s):** May 30, 2007.

**Place:** Eastern Tip of Long Point.

**Time(s) of Observation:** 11:00

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**Who first saw the bird(s):** Dave Brown and Fergus Nicoll

**Who first identified it:** Dave Brown and Fergus Nicoll in consultation with Stu Mackenzie and Ron Ridout.

**Other observers (names and addresses):**

**Any who disagree:** No

**Your previous experience with the species:** Both observers had no previous experience with the species.

**Your previous experience with any closely similar species:**

**(a) Formerly:** none

**(b) Same day:** none

**Species present for comparison:**

**Which were beside it for comparison:**

**Distance from observer(s):**

**How measured:**

**Optical aids used:**

**Weather conditions (at time of observation)**

**Visibility:** clear

**Cloud Cover:** 5/10

**Lighting:** good

**Wind direction and speed:** light SW

**Other relevant conditions:**  
(eg. rain, snow cover, etc.)

**For "Waterbird " records only**

**Lake conditions:**

**Wave height:**

**Height of observer above lake:**

**Was observer's position sheltered:**

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**Weather system preceding the date of observation (if known):** unknown

*Attach weather map clipping from local or national newspaper if relevant.*

**Associated movements of other species:**

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**Was the bird trapped:** yes

**Band # if banded:**

**Was it photographed:** yes

**If yes, by whom (name and address):** Dave Brown c/o LPBO.

**Specimen or parts preserved:**

**Present location:**

**Circumstances:**

The bird was captured near the Tip of Long Point and brought back to the banding lab for banding and examination. Pictures were taken of the bird immediately and in the excitement and confusion the bird accidentally escaped before measurements could be taken.

**Description:**

**Give separate description for (a) in the field (b) in the hand. Include full measurements and wing formula with hand descriptions.**

See photo. Based on some replacement of greater coverts, shape and condition of the retained rectrices we think that it is a second-year bird. Sex was not determined. One key identifying feature that is not visible in the photos is the whitish outer corners of the tail which is formed from progressively large white ends to the rectrices from R3 to R6.

**Did you refer to any guides/other literature:**

**(a) at the time:** yes

**(b) afterwards:** yes

**Finally, is this record 100% certain?** yes

**Signed:**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stuart Mackenzie".

**Date:**

Feb 20, 2010

For Fergus Nicoll and Dave Brown.

**E-mail Address:** s\_a\_mackenzie@yahoo.ca

**Mailing Address:**

Long Point Bird Observatory  
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