

RECORD #: 2-B-06

IDAHO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

SPECIES:

Brambling

REPORTER:

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OTHER OBSERVERS:

Poo Wright-Pulliam
Jean Seymour
Dave Spaulding
Brian Sturges
Larry Barnes
Robin Garwood
and about 40 others I have email addresses for nearly all of them.

DATE REPORT PREPARED:

May 22, 2006

DATE SIGHTING OCCURRED:

April 8 to 16, 2006

LOCALITY OF OBSERVATION:

508 South 7th Street
Bellevue, Idaho

HABITAT:

front yard

CONDITIONS:

The weather was sunny and calm on April 8th. Over the course of time that the bird visited there were some rainy days. Generally however the weather was goo.

I used Swarovski EL 8.5x42 7.4 binoculars at a distance of approx. 10 feet for the first identification of the bird. The sun was in the west and I was looking east.

DID YOU TAKE NOTES?:

No, not at all

DID YOU CONSULT FIELD GUIDE OR OTHER REFERENCES?:

Yes, during the observation

WHAT GUIDE(S) OR REFERENCE(S) DID YOU CONSULT?:

The Sibley Guides to Birds page 524 copyright 2000

DESCRIPTION:

Fringilla montifringilla, Finch. Orange breast and shoulder, yellow bill with some black on the tip, black mask and gray head, faint wing bars, white belly, with slight black spots on the flank/vent area, dark eye, mottled pattern on back; grayish, black fringes, orangish.

BEHAVIOR:

It was feeding on Black Oil Seed on the lawn under the feeder. No vocalization, no preening. Perched in the tree like other finch. It was flying to the front yard with a group of finch.

HOW AND WHEN DID YOU POSITIVELY IDENTIFY THE BIRD, AND WHAT CLINCHED THE IDENTIFICATION FOR YOU?

I knew it was a Brambling when I got a good look at it with the binoculars. I had seen a Brambling two years ago in Kuna, Idaho and videoed that bird. The id was clinched however when I compared my digital photo with the picture in Sibley's Guide, and it was further clinched when Poo, Brian, Dave, etc. said, "yes that sure is a Brambling!"

HOW DID YOU ELIMINATE SIMILAR SPECIES, AND WHAT WERE THEY?

Well I knew that it was too small to be a Spotted Towhee which is an orange and black bird, I could see that it had a dark eye not a red eye. The Spotted Towhee is the only other bird that I think might closely resemble the Brambling in color.

EXPERIENCE WITH THIS SPECIES (AND SIMILAR SPECIES):

This is the second Brambling that I have seen. I video taped that last one, and I have watched that tape many times. That Brambling was in Kuna, Idaho.

GENERAL BIRDING EXPERIENCE:

I began birding in 1993 and have continued from that time to now.

I am an advanced birder, not expert up pretty good.

WERE PHOTO(S), VIDEO, AND/OR AUDIO OBTAINED BY YOU?:

Photo