

RECORD #: 20-B-05

IDAHO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

SPECIES:

Eurasian Collared-Dove

REPORTER:

Stacy Jon Peterson
4442 Sijan St. Apt. A
Mtn Home AFB, ID
83648
208-590-3200 (cell)
SJPeterson@aol.com

OTHER OBSERVERS:

none

My parents were in the car, but didn't see the birds. Dad was driving. I was sitting in passenger seat, and so could concentrate on the observation while it lasted...

DATE REPORT PREPARED:

6/5/2005

DATE SIGHTING OCCURRED:

May 30, 2005

LOCALITY OF OBSERVATION:

Interstate 86
Exit #36, south of American Falls, Power County

HABITAT:

rural, telephone line

CONDITIONS:

Afternoon sun (about 5 PM). Saw the birds (2) from the car as we got onto the interstate. One was sitting on the power line and another flew up and landed next to it -- the powerlines are adjacent to the highway onramp.

DID YOU TAKE NOTES?:

not at all?

DID YOU CONSULT FIELD GUIDE OR OTHER REFERENCES?:

not at all?

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

none

DESCRIPTION:

These were clearly larger doves than Mourning, slimmer and paler than Rocks. The bird sitting on the line was not observed well until the other one landed next to it. The bird that landed was seen well, though briefly (about 2 seconds total as we drove past). The landing bird was the size and shape of Eurasian Collareds that I'm familiar with, and had the very pale cream overall coloration and the darker band on the tail. The view I had was of the bird's underside as it landed. The sighting was very brief (again, about 2 second total), but I have ample experience with this species. The only thing I cannot for certain eliminate is a fat Ringed Turtle-Dove or a hybrid between that and Eurasian Collared-Dove given the brevity of the sighting. I suspect either of these would be unlikely in that locale, however.

BEHAVIOR:

One flying in and landing on a telephone line next to another one.

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

Identified on the spot; the features described above and below clinched the ID. I've seen these birds untold numbers of times in the past and recognized it immediately.

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

Mourning Dove eliminated by color (uniformly paler), size (larger), tail pattern (rounded tail and terminal band). Rock Dove eliminated by body shape, pale color (though variants do exist), and overall "gizz."

EXPERIENCE WITH THIS SPECIES (AND SIMILAR SPECIES):

I have seen Eurasian Collared-Doves on numerous occasions in several locales over the past few years, including Florida, the Southeast, and California (where I most recently observed them in January 2005 in Brawley). They were abundant birds in coastal Mississippi when we lived there (1998-2001).

GENERAL BIRDING EXPERIENCE:

I would describe it as considerable...

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

None