

Species: Northern Oriole (Baltimore)  
(Vernacular name)Icterus galbula  
(Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students--those studying occurrences 50 years from now--must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

NA

Date (s): 6/27/81Time Bird Seen: 12:00 <sup>Noon</sup> to \_\_\_\_\_Locality: Simpson Springs

Dugway Utah  
Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Bushnell 8x36 Binoculars

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: Male Plumage: AdultLight conditions: very good, sunny and fairDistance from bird, and how measured: ~30-50', estimated

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

flying low from tree to tree

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

general desolate area except for immediate area of Simpson Springs which had numerous young fruit trees planted.

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address)



Describe in great detail the bird which includes a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough.) Describe what you actually saw in the field.

Clearly an Oriole when seen from a distance, bright orange breast and black back immediately suggested a Bullock's but examination through binoculars revealed a solid black head. After checking field guide, the difference in wing pattern was noticed which was like Baltimore but not Bullock's pattern. The tail pattern which also would have supported this i.d. was not observed. In all other aspects the bird was identical to the male ~~Baltimore~~<sup>Baltimore</sup> pattern.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.: none

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

not Bullock's because of head and wing pattern  
" Scott's because of deep orange breast color  
could have been a Black headed Grosbeak from description.

Prior experience with this and similar species: I've observed both Scott's and Bullock's several times.

This report was written from notes made during  after  observation; from memory

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Signature: Tim Helentjaris

Return to: UFO RECORDS COMMITTEE  
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