

FIRST RECORD OF SCOTT'S ORIOLE FROM COLORADO

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On 1 May 1975 John and Joyce Cooper found a Scott's Oriole (*Icterus parisorum*) in Red Rocks Park, near Morrison, Jefferson Co., Colorado (Cooper 1975). On 2 May Robert Andrews and Remsen relocated the bird and studied it for 20 minutes as it foraged in flowering and budding cottonwoods in a brushy gully surrounded by large rock formations, foothill grassland, and scattered junipers. This location is on the eastern slope of the eastern foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Remsen obtained five photographs of the bird, from which the identification was confirmed by Laurence C. Binford, Curator of Birds, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California. Binford (pers. comm.) noted that the age and sex of the bird could not be determined due to the difficulty in distinguishing immature males from dark-throated adult females and that the only thing which could be said with certainty was that it was not an adult male. Copies of the photographs have been deposited in the files of the Official Records Committee (O.R.C.) of the Colorado Field Ornithologists. Although the record has already been accepted as the first for Colorado on the basis of written descriptions submitted by John Cooper, Andrews and Remsen (record N-54-53; Reddall 1976), this note is the first report of the existence of the photographs to confirm the identification.

Interestingly, two more Scott's Orioles were found in Colorado in the next three days after the first bird was found. An adult male was seen by Hugh E. Kingery (Kingery 1975), Thompson G. Marsh, and Ralph Sargent on 3 May at Waterton, Jefferson Co. Another adult male was found by George R. Shier on 5 May at Golden, Jefferson Co. Both records have been accepted by the O.R.C. (records 54-75-90 and 54-75-91; Reddall 1976). These two localities are also along the eastern foothills of the Rockies, and neither is more than 25 km from Red Rocks Park. Another adult male found by Margaret Ewing was present 15 to 17 June 1975 at McCoy, Eagle Co. (accepted by the O.R.C., record 54-75-101; Reddall 1976).

Scott's Oriole has been listed from Colorado by Bailey and Niedrach (1965) on the basis of a sight record that was subsequently rejected by the O.R.C. for insufficient details (Reddall 1974). It is surprising that this species has not been recorded more frequently in Colorado, particularly in the western third of the state. It is an uncommon summer resident in southern Utah with a scattering of records in the northern part of the state (Hayward et al. 1976). It also summers locally in northern New Mexico (Ligon 1961; Hubbard 1970) and northeastern Arizona (Phillips, Marshall and Monson 1964).

Extralimital records of this species are not unprecedented. A brief literature search yielded one record from Ontario (Goodwin 1976), one from Minnesota (Maley 1974), six from Louisiana (Lowery 1974), and five from northern California (McCaskie et al. 1978). A few of these are spring records, including one each from Louisiana and northern California in the first week of May, the same time period as for three of the Colorado records. Most extralimital records, however, are from late fall and winter. This is curious since this species normally abandons its breeding grounds in the United States in late August or early September (Phillips, Marshall and Monson 1964; Behle and Perry 1975; Remsen, Cardiff and Cardiff MS). Thus there appears to be a substantial gap between the exodus of the breeding population from the southwestern United States and the earliest fall ar-

NOTES

rival dates for extralimital birds. There are apparently no extralimital records before late fall or early winter, except for coastal southern California, where there are a few records of vagrant Scott's Orioles in late September and October (McCaskie 1966, 1969, 1974). This same pattern seems to be evident in several other migratory species reaching the northern limit of their breeding range in the southwestern United States, e.g. Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cyananthus latirostris*), Dusky-capped (=Olivaceous) Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*), Coues' Flycatcher (*Contopus pertinax*), Bendire's Thrasher (*Toxostoma bendirei*), Lucy's Warbler (*Vermivora luciae*), and Painted Redstart (*Myioborus pictus*), and will be discussed in detail elsewhere (Remsen, Cardiff and Cardiff MS).

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