

ILLINOIS DOCUMENTATION FOR UNUSUAL BIRD SIGHTINGS

Submitted to Illinois Ornithological Records Committee (IORC)

IORC RECORD NUMBER:

This form submitted as supporting documentation of (check all that apply):

[Empty box for IORC Record Number]

Unusual species Unusual date: Unusual number:

___ Unusual plumage; ___ Unusual breeding record; ___ Christmas Count record; Spring Count record;
___ Breeding Census record; ___ Other: _____

- 1. SPECIES: Swainson's Warbler
- 2. Number of birds: One Age/sex/plumage: Adult male in breeding plumage
- 3. Date(s): 5/5/2019
- 4. Location (include county): Alexander County, Sexton Creek Rd., 37.278328,
- 5. Observers: Ida Domazlicky, Colleen Kimmel -89.378556

Documenter: Your name: Ida Domazlicky

Mailing Address: [Redacted]

Email Address: [Redacted]

Others agreeing Colleen Kimmel

Observers NOT agreeing with identification: None

6. Description of bird, including size; shape; proportions; details of both color and patterns on head, back, chin, throat, breast, flanks, undertail, wings, and tail, etc.; coloration of soft parts (bill, eye, legs and feet). Include only details actually seen in the field.

Rather nondescript warbler with tan eyeline and cap and darker brown back. Pale face, throat, chest and belly, though belly had a pale yellow wash. Black eyes and beak. Pinkish ^{feet} legs. About the size of a yellow-rump but with a more delicate appearance, less chubby-looking. Tail dark brown above with pale whitish under-tail coverts.

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Species: Swainson's Warbler Date seen: 5/5/2019 Documenter: Domazlicky

7. Description of behavior: The bird sang continuously for about 20 minutes from a candelabra, staying near the creek side of the brake.

8. Description of vocalizations: Vocalization was the song - clear and strong, repeated nearly continuously. Voice quality similar to the Waterthrush. Note pattern was 3 clear, high notes on same pitch. Then 1 note on same pitch that dropped a 5th, rose about 2 whole steps for 1 note, then slid back to the lowest note.

9. Description of immediate and surrounding habitat(s): Sexton Creek on a 6-ft bank with cane and small trees, bordered by gravel road & farm field to the west. Much open brake about 20x15 yds. Grass & weeds interspersed. Trees included honey locust in bloom, also small elm, a few cottonwoods to 25 ft. nearby.

10. Viewing conditions: Excellent clear, quiet day. Call easily heard over creek noise
Optical equipment used for observation (type, power): Nikon Aculon 8x24 zoom and LEOPOLD 8x42 Field 65

Distance/how measured? Estimated in 5 ft. increments

Time(s) of observation: 8:05 AM Total time of observation: 20-25 minutes

Weather (including regional or national weather patterns if relevant)/ sky conditions/ relative position of the sun: Clear with a few clouds, 58° F, light breeze

11. Previous experience with this species and similar species: Both observers have extensive experience with the Waterthrush (over 30 yrs. each). Swainson's experience is primarily from numerous encounters at this site over 10+ years, both visual and auditory.

12. Please eliminate other similar species and/or hybrids (use additional paper, if necessary):

The Waterthrush eliminated due to vocalization pattern being inconsistent with that bird. Nothing else has a pattern ending with whip-pee-will-type pattern in warbler voice quality.

13. Where photos obtained? NO If so, by whom? _____ Attached? _____

14. Books & illustrations consulted, and advice received. How did these influence this description?

15. How long after the observation were field notes recorded? Immediately

16. How long after observation was this form completed? 24 hours

17. Additional remarks:

Signed: Ada Domazlicky Date: May 5, 2019