

New Mexico Ornithological Society

Bird Records Committee Submittal Form

New Mexico Rare/Unusual Bird Report

1. Species: Carolina Wren

2. Number: 2

3. Location: Bosque del Apache NWR

4. Date(s): 12/15/12

5. Time(s): 7:30 AM

6: Reporting observer:

David L. Hawksworth

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Albuquerque, NM 87102

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7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird: None.

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird: These birds were seen and heard by Raymond VanBuskirk, Jason Kitting, and Beth Hurst-Waitz on the count day. These birds have been present in the same area since the late summer of 2011 and seen and/or heard and identified by many, many observers.

9. Light conditions: N/A

10. Optical equipment: N/A

11. Distance to bird: Both sounded like they were 50-75 meters away.

12. Duration of observation: I could hear both singing/calling at the same time for about 15-20 seconds. One or both were calling or singing for several minutes, but apart from that one time, I only heard one at a time.

13. Habitat: Both appeared to be in dense riparian thickets (willow/cottonwood/salt cedar) along canals, although I can't be sure since I didn't see them.

14. Behavior: One was singing and the other (presumably its mate) was calling.

15. Description: N/A (heard only).

16. Voice: One was singing with the very distinctive “tea-kettle tea-kettle tea-kettle” song. The other was calling at the same time with the unique clear, trilled “trrrr trrrr trrrr” call notes. Later, one or both were calling or singing from time to time.

17. Similar species: The call note of a Carolina Wren might be confused with other wren call notes. However, Bewick's, Marsh, and House Wrens all have much buzzier, raspier sounding call notes. The song of a Carolina Wren is very distinctive and not likely to be confused with any other species.

18. Photographs? They were not photographed on the day of the count, but have been photographed many times previously.

19. Previous experience with this species: I have observed this species many times previously, including these particular birds on many occasions.

20. Aids: None needed.

21. This description written from: Notes taken at time of observation.

22. Are you positive of your identification? Yes.

23. Signature, date & time report written:

Dave Hawksworth 12/23/12 11:00 AM (Additional info added on 4/28/2013.)