

CBC RARE BIRD DOCUMENTATION FORM

Submitted as documentation of (check all that apply):

_____ Unusual Species x Unusual Date _____ Unusual Habitat

MOST IMPORTANT: On back of form give complete details of this observation. Use additional sheets as needed. Include information on the bird's plumage, shape, size, vocalizations, habitat, behavior, etc. Describe exactly what you saw; include photocopies of your original notes and sketches. Name the species that you considered ID contenders; explain how you eliminated them.

Count Area: Silver City, NM CBC circle

Species - *Molothrus ater*, Brown-headed cowbird **Age:** adult **Sex:** Male and Female **Number:**
2 female, 3 male

4. **Date(s) of Observation:** Dec. 18 females, Dec 19, 2015 males **Time:** Female ~ 2:30 PM
male ~ 10:00 AM

5. **Place:** Females – Silver City Water Treatment Plant, Males – Glenn Ranch fields

Nearest Town: Silver City **County:** Grant County

6. **Observer** Karen Beckenbach

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7. **Observation Details:**

Other Observers: Females – none, Males – Grant Weyburne and Sonnie Sussillo

Optics Used: Vortex Viper 10X42

Distance From Bird: 50 - 100 ft **Viewing Conditions:** clear and unobstructed

Weather, sky cover: Mostly sunny, calm, about 45 °F

Photo Taken? No **Video?** No **Sound Recording?** No **Specimen?** NO

Past Experience: With this or similar species? They are in my yard during spring and summer

References or Advice Consulted: Females – Peterson Field Guide to Western Birds – 4th edition. Males-none

Was this report done from notes made during or after observation or from memory?
Memory

Signature Karen Beckenbach

Date December 27, 2015

Description: (use additional pages as needed)

The females were sitting on a telephone pole with many Brewer's Blackbirds. These females were uniformly rusty brown. Their bills were noticeably shorter and generally more conical than the Brewer's bills.

The males were on the ground in a field looking for food along with Brewer's BB. They had brownish heads and blackish bodies. Their eyes were dark.