

Species: COMMON GRACKLE

Record No. 511-94-15

Location: BROOKINGS, CURRY CO.

Date(s): APRIL 17, 1994

Observers	details	slides	prints	tapes
<u>COBIN</u> <u>DILLINGHAM</u>	<u>A</u>			

Specimen no. & location _____

Accepted 9-0

verified _____
Single rept. sighting _____
Multiple rept. sighting _____

Not accepted _____

origin questionable _____
exotic not estab. _____

Records split _____

Records combined _____

Disposition

Secretary's File
Main File A
Slide File _____
Print File _____
Tape File _____

Duplicate File
details A
slides _____
prints _____
tapes _____

Date observer(s) notified: 5-17-96

511-94-15A

RCD: 6-8-94

Colin Dillingham
437 Azalea park Rd
Brookings, OR 97415
503-469-9624

BIRD IDENTIFICATION:
1 Common Grackle, male.

DATE(S):
April 17, 1994, 0920-0922

LOCATION:
437 Azalea Park Road, Brookings, Curry County, Oregon.

DETAILS:
Large icterid, larger than adjacent Brewer's blackbirds. Bill heavier than adjacent Brewer's blackbird. Iris dull yellow. Central tail feathers longer than outer tail feathers giving a wedge-tailed appearance. Head purplish. Dark-colored body plumage. Shorter-tailed and smaller than other grackles. Purplish head feathers distinct from rest of the dark bodied bird.

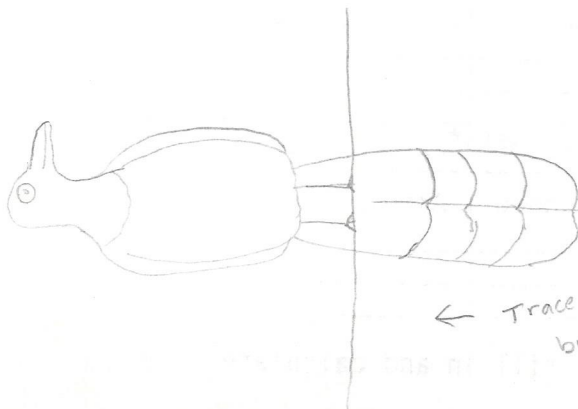
CIRCUMSTANCES OF OBSERVATION:
I was birding in the front yard of my house looking at a variety of species trying to get a big yard list for the day. I saw a large "blackbird" fly over my yard. I ran into the house and saw what appeared to be a common grackle on the utility wire in my backyard. I quickly set up my spotting scope so I could get a better view. I stepped back from view after a few seconds to show Angie (my wife) the grackle. After she watched it for ten seconds or so, it flew away. We never saw it again.

REASONS FOR IDENTIFICATION:
Other grackles are longer-tailed and larger bodied. The glossy purplish head stood out on this bird markedly from the rest of the birds plumage. Great-tailed and boat-tailed grackles have more evenly colored body plumage.
The larger body size, larger tail, wedge-shaped tail, larger bill distinguish this bird from Brewers and other blackbirds.

OTHER OBSERVERS:
Angela Dillingham

PHOTOGRAPHS:
None.

Colin Dillingham June 2, 1994 (from field notes taken at time of observation)



← Trace of sketch made
by Angie Dillingham
on April 17, 1994