

of lores dark (looked brown). Eye brown. Pale bluish stripe at upper edge of bare loreal area. Less distinct pale stripe at lower edge of bare loreal area. Legs approx. 1 foot long. Feeding constantly by probing in aquatic vegetation at edge of pond. Ate several small fish. Not found after this date. After finding this bird I was surprised to hear it had been on the bird alert for several days.

323 - -1996

Long-billed Dowitcher - Large plump shorebirds with long straight bills, feeding together and probing mud/water with sewing machine-like bill movements. In flight, tail feathers appeared dark (narrow white bands with wider black banding on tail) relative to broad pure white stripe down center of back. Back feathers solid dark brownish (with narrow reddish brown edging. Heavy barring in flanks, extending to tips of undertail coverts. At times, it appeared that it was actually dark spotting on undertail coverts and not barring. Calls heard on several occasions - a sharp "kip" which was given in an irregular series, or singly. The call was not the more soft sounding "tu-tu-tu-tu" of Short-billed Dowitcher. Seen on several days at this location, once in November (single bird - see field notes)

830A-01-1996

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow - Well seen for 30 seconds through 10x40 Zeiss binoculars at 20 meters distance. Sat on top of goldenrod stem in large, open, tall weedy field near cattails and rushes at edge of a pond. A sparrow slightly smaller than a Song Sparrow, perhaps same size as a Swamp Sparrow, but with a short tail. Crown dark solid brown on anterior half, becoming gray (unstreaked) on posterior half (see drawing). No narrow central crown stripe in dark brown of crown. The gray of crown extended posteriorly into unstreaked gray nape patch. Broad buff superciliary. Auricular patch grayish-brown, elongating and widening posteriorly. Chin, throat, and breast a rich buffy color with diffuse streaking in band across and along flanks. Belly dull whitish and without streaking. Undertail coverts and back not seen well, but back did strike me as being dark brown in coloration. I am quite familiar with Salt Marsh Sparrow, but have only seen Nelson's in Minnesota and North Dakota. I did not eliminate Salt Marsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow at the time, but assume this species would not occur inland. No vocalizations. East of Crossingsville, Crawford Co.

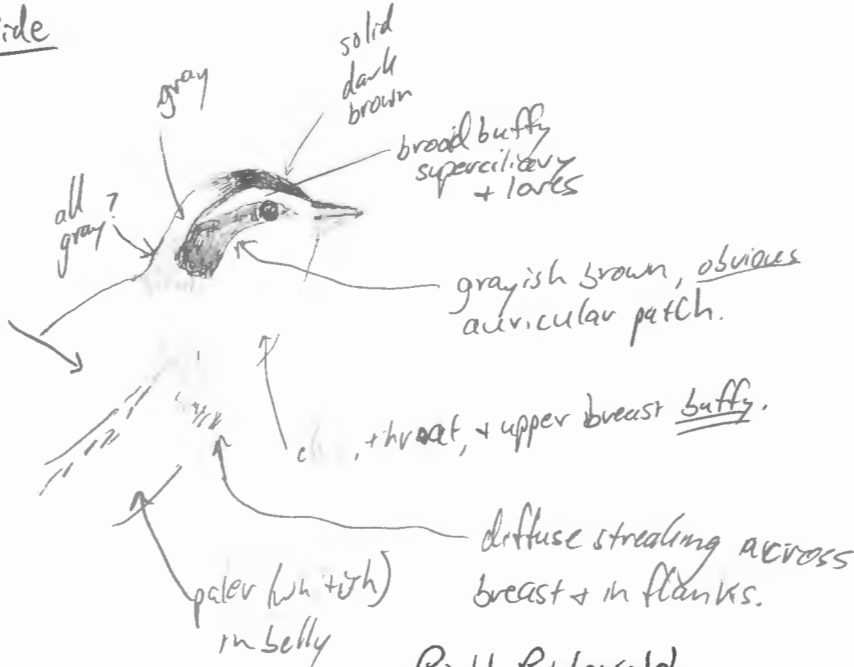
830A- -1996

Nelson's S.T. Sparrow

From Above
solid dark brown
gray
pay attention to central crown stripe only in this drawing



Side
gray
solid dark brown
broad buffy superciliary + lores
grayish brown, obvious auricular patch.
+ throat, + upper breast buffy.
diffuse streaking across breast + in flanks.
paler (wh + tan) in belly
dark back color
all gray?



Poul Rodewald

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of 2

Species: Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*)

Date of Sighting: 9 October 1996 to 9 October 1996

Location: CROSSINGVILLE

County: CRAWFORD

Observer(s): Paul Rodewald

Date of Submission: 1996

Submitted by: Paul Rodewald

Written Description: YES

Photo: NO

Specimen: NO

Recording: NONE

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas				X				
N. Pulcinella			X					
E. Kwater				X				
R. Ickes			X					
G. McWilliams			X					
P. Schwalbe			X					
S. Feldstein			X					
TOTALS			5	2				
DECISION								

Comments:

Send for second Round.

Signature (Secretary):

F. C. Haas

Date:

8-16-97

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 2 of 2

Species: Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*)

Date of Sighting: 9 October 1996 to 9 October 1996

Location: CROSSINGVILLE

County: CRAWFORD

Observer(s): Paul Rodewald

Date of Submission: 1996

Submitted by: Paul Rodewald

Written Description: YES

Photo: NO

Specimen: NO

Recording: NONE

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas				X				
P. Schwalbe			X					
E. Kwater				X				
R. Ickes			X					
S. Feldstein				X				
J. McWilliams			X					
N. Pulcinella			X					
TOTALS			4	4				
DECISION				X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F C Haas

Date:

4-19-99