

VT BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
RECORDS OF VERMONT BIRDS

**AOU #**  
**FILE #**

RARE SPECIES REPORT (RSD)

The following form has been prepared to encourage full documentation, when requested, of rare or unseasonal birds in the state of Vermont. These reports are put into a permanent file and should be as detailed as possible. New reports are reviewed annually by the Vermont Bird Records Committee, which evaluates records for their acceptability to future researchers and for inclusion in the state bird list.

Please print or type

SPECIES: **Red Bellied Woodpecker**

NUMBER OBSERVED: **1**

OBSERVER MAKING REPORT: **Bronia VanBenthuisen** OTHER OBSERVERS: (addresses if available)

LOCATION: (place, township, county)

**1083 Shackett Road Brandon VT 05733**

DATE:

**13<sup>th</sup> thru present November 2012**

TIME AND LENGTH OF OBSERVATION:

**Many times over several days**

DISTANCE FROM BIRD:

**Minimum: 3 ft Maximum: 5 ft**

WEATHER:

**Cold partly cloudy**

Wind direction: **SW**

Wind speed: **< 0**

Temperature: **30 to 40° deg. F.**

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT: (make, power, etc.)

OBSERVER'S PREVIOUS ACQUAINTANCE WITH THIS SPECIES OR SIMILAR FORMS:

**I have never seen this bird before used books to identify I have outstanding photos of the sighting.**

OTHER DOCUMENTATION: Photo yes Tape Recording \_\_\_\_\_ Specimens \_\_\_\_\_

If yes to the above, where is the information deposited?

**I took lots of pics**

HABITAT: (Be as detailed as possible, include associated bird species)

**Hanging on my suet and eating from the ground also in my lilac bush**

BIRD'S BEHAVIOR: (Feeding actions, manner of flight, displays, or interactions, reaction to observer)

**Throughout the observation, the bird was sitting or feeding on my suet.**

VOCALIZATION: (Song or calls)

**None observed.**

DESCRIPTION: (Describe what you actually saw during the observation. We hope that observers will take field notes during the observation and before consulting field guides, etc. Additional pages with sketches and copies of field notes are encouraged.)

Relative size and shape:

**The bird has a very red head and a pinkish glowing belly his back, while black and white like others. unlike other woodpeckers has a ladderback look to it.**

Head (crown, cheeks, eye, throat, nape):

**The whole head is very red and the face and throat is white .**

Bill and feet (shape, color, length): **The bill is long and black.**

Upper back: Whole back is black and white diagramed like a ladder.

Lower back and rump: same.

Wings (shape, length, markings):

**The wings were black and white.**

Breast, belly, flanks, undertail coverts:

**White with pinkish glow down lower**

Tail (Shape, length, markings):

**Black and white very geometrical designs in white and black.**

WHAT SIMILAR SPECIES WERE ELIMINATED WHEN MAKING THIS IDENTIFICATION AND HOW WAS THIS BIRD DIFFERENT?

**Downy, hairy and piliated woodpeckers this bird is definately bigger than a downy or hairy not as big as a piliated and the very red whole head and ladderback design set him apart.**

COMMENTS (was age or sex determined? Etc.)

This report was written from notes taken: during \_\_\_\_\_ immediately after \_\_\_\_\_ the observation, or written from memory \_\_\_\_\_ (please attach copies of notes if available)

NAME (print): Bronia VanBenthuisen

SIGNATURE:

MAILING ADDRESS:

DATE:

**Please email this copy to <kmcfarland@vtcostudies.org>**

Or return signed copy to: Vt. Bird Records Committee(VBRC) c/o: Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE), P.O.Box 420, Norwich, VT 05055.



