

Operation RubyThroat



Hummingbird Migration Protocol Work Sheet (U.S & Canada)

Observer's Name: _____

Latitude/Longitude of Observation: _____

City/County or Parish/State of Observation: _____

DATES OF OBSERVATIONS FOR EACH RTHU AGE/SEX CLASS		
<i>Fill in Category 4 below only if other categories are not used</i>	First (Spring or Summer) Date This Age/Sex Was Observed YYYY/MM/DD	Last (Autumn) Date This Age/Sex Was Observed YYYY/MM/DD
1. Adult Male (red throat) March-October		
2. Adult Female (white throat) March & April only		
3. Undetermined Sex & Age (white throat, could be male or female of any age) May-October		
4. Undetermined Sex & Age (throat not seen) March-October		
5. Young Male (throat streaked in green or black and/or one or more red throat feathers) May-October		

Beginning about 1 March, EarthTrek observers in Gulf Coast states should begin watching hummingbird feeders and flowering plants for the earliest spring migrant Ruby-throated Hummingbird, *Archilochus colubris*. (Do not report dates for any other hummingbird species, including those in which males may have red throats. Refer to the Operation RubyThroat Web site for help in identifying other hummingbirds and determining age/sex classes for RTHU.) It takes a while for RTHU to disperse throughout their breeding range, so observers north of the Gulf Coast should begin observations at appropriately later dates. In spring report the apparent sex of your first migrant male and first female RTHU, based on plumage. During summer, report your first sighting of a juvenile male RTHU. During autumn, report the last day(s) you observe RTHU, based on the birds' various ages and sexes. Rarely, RTHU overwinter in the continental U.S., especially in coastal areas; locations for any RTHU present in the U.S. between 1 November and 29 February should be reported directly to research@hiltonpond.org. Use other side of this sheet to jot down anecdotal observations or questions that may arise. Transfer the data above to the relevant online form on the EarthTrek Web site.