**Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufous*)- 58 Nimrod St, Concord, Middlesex County, MA 29 November 2012**

**Data:**

The hummingbird was captured in a Sargent trap and the following measurements were taken with bird in hand at 1140 on 29 November 2012. U S F&W band # 9000-51881 was placed on right tarsus.

Wing chord: 44.9 mm Tail length: 26.0 mm

Width rectrix #1: 8.2 mm Exposed culmen: 19.2 mm

Width rectrix #5: 3.5 mm Mass: 4.1 g

Emargination rectrix #2: Present Length white tip r5: 6.0 mm

Subcutaneous fat: Furcular hollow full and layer of fat visible on abdomen (Fat score of 4 based on MAPS criteria)

No striations visible on the upper mandible. Adult (Definitive Basic) female with rufous on flanks; dull bronze-green upperparts; rufous on basal portion of uppertail coverts; whitish throat with dusky bronze spotting and 2 iridescent orange-red feathers confined to center of throat; green to dusky rectrices with rufous on basal half of feathers and white tips to outer 3 tail feathers. Emargination visible on rectrix # 2. Bird showed signs of stress so was unable to get photos of tail and then allowed homeowner to release the bird.

**Discussion:**

This bird was aged as an after hatch year (AHY) based on lack of striations on the bill. Amount of iridescent feathers in throat can vary from few small feathers to dense triangle or diamond. (Williamson 2001).

Wing chord of 44.9 is too long for *S. s. sasin,* but fits both adult and immature females of *S. rufous* and *S .s. sedentarius.* Tail length of 26.0 mm is too long for *S. s. sasin,* but is in the range for *S. rufous* and *S. s. sedentarius.* Exposed culmen of 19.2 mm fits *S. s. sedentarius* and is too long for both *S. s. sasin and rufous,* though closer in range to *S. rufous*. Typical width of rectrix # 1 is in range for adult females of *S. rufous* at 8.2 mm, but too wide for *S. s. sasin and S. s. sedentarius.* Width of rectrix 5 is in the range for *S. rufous,* but too wide for *S. s. sasin*, and *S. s. sedentarius.*

Wing, and tail, and culmen measurements fit *S. rufous.* Although some measurements may suggest *S. s. sedentarius*, the likelihood is doubtful of that species showing up on the east coast and the distinct emargination and shape of r2 point to *S. rufous.*

**References:**

Pyle, P. 1997. Identification Guide to North American Birds. Part I. Slate Creek Press, Bolinas, CA.

Stiles, F. G. 1972. Age and Sex Determination in Rufous and Allen *(sic.)* Hummingbirds. Condor 74: 25-32.

Williamson, Sheri L.2001. Hummingbirds of North America. Houghton Mifflin Company. New York, New York.

Respectfully submitted,

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