**Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufous*)- 15 Thayer Ave, W. Bridgewater, Plymouth County, MA 12 December 2012**

**Data:**

The hummingbird was captured in a Sargent trap and the following measurements were taken with bird in hand at 1130 on 11 December 2012. U S F&W band # 9000-51883 was placed on right tarsus.

Wing chord: 42.6 mm Tail length: 25.0 mm

Width rectrix #1: not taken Exposed culmen: 18.5 mm

Width rectrix #5: 3.8 mm Mass: 4.7 g

Emargination rectrix #2: Present

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 numerous 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 both sides of rectrix # 2.

**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). The throat pattern for adult female is similar to Fig.1a (Stiles 1972).

Wing chord of 42.6 is on the lower range for adult female *S. rufous,* is on the upper range for *S. s. sasin,* and fits *S. s. sedentarius..* Tail length of 25.0 mm and exposed culmen of 18.5 mm fits all three species*.* 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 all three species.However, the width of r5 and 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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