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FIRST SPECIMEN OF THE SPOTTED BAT (EUDERMA MACULATUM) FROM COLORADO

Robert B. Finley, Jr.,1 and James Creasy2

ABSTRACT.— A spotted bat (Euderma maculatum) was picked up at the headquarters of Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge, Moffat County, Colorado, on 29 August 1981.

The spotted bat (Euderma maculatum) has not been reported from Colorado, although its presence in the state was considered probable by Armstrong (1972). The specimen reported here was an accidental find, like many others previously reported (Barbour and Davis, 1969).

On 29 August 1981, at about 1000 MDT on a clear day, Creasy found an adult female spotted bat resting on a concrete slab behind the shop in the old headquarters area of the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge, 1630 m, Moffat County, Colorado. When touched, it spread its wings, raised its head and ears, and opened its mouth, but made no effort to fly. It was prepared as a study skin, skull, and alcoholic carcass; no sign of injury or illness was found during preparation. It was deposited in the Biological Surveys collection at Fort Collins (BS/FC 7557).

Browns Park is a wide, mountain-ringed valley or "park" about 25 km long, through which the Green River meanders before entering Gates of Lodore, a narrow gorge at the north end of Dinosaur National Monument. The headquarters site is 9 km north and 2 km west of Gates of Lodore, on a strip of cottonwood bottom between the left bank of the Green River and Harry Hoy Bottom, a cattail-bulrush marsh. The nearest cliffs are on the steep rocky mountainside 3 km southwest across the Green River. Cliffs a few hundred meters high form the walls of the Gates of Lodore 10 km to the south. The rocky mountainsides encircling Browns Park are wooded with pinyon-juniper.

The nearest locality previously reported for the spotted bat was Salt Lake City, Utah, approximately 255 km to the west (Durrant 1935). Nearest known localities in other directions are 5 mi NW Monticello, Utah, approximately 355 km to the south (Benson 1954); and Byron, Bighorn Co., Wyoming, approximately 440 km to the north (Mickey 1961).

External measurements (in millimeters) of the specimen from Browns Park NWR are: total length, 119; length of tail, 53; length of hind foot, 13; length of ear, 42; length of tragus, 15; width of tragus, 5; length of forearm, 52; and weight, 13.5 g. Cranial measurements (in mm) taken as described by Handley (1959) are: greatest length of skull, 19.4; zygomatic breadth, 10.7; interorbital breadth, 4.2; breadth of braincase, 9.4; depth of braincase, 5.7; maxillary toothrow, 6.3; postpalatal length, 8.1; and palatal breadth, 7.2.

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