

with each body movement. At least 15 times it brought one or the other foot and tried to force its bill outward as it scraped along the edge. 5 or 6 times it lost balance and in regained balance usually caught wings in branches. Once it hung upside down. The tongue was always extended approx. an eighth of an inch beyond the bill. 9 times a female or females came to this bird and perched 4-5 inches away. No male visited the bird. After 25 minutes it gained three positions in a madrone tree 20 feet from feeder and finally came to feeder but was immediately displaced. It alighted on the porch rail where it remained on belly and continued its body movement and throat expansion. Two females approached the male to within 4 inches, mainly from curiosity rather than aggressive intent. One adult male struck the sick bird at rapid speed and knocked it into flight. This bird then flew N and out of sight of the view window. Yesterday evening I recognized this bird and at that time was conducting itself as it did tonight. This evening it showed further degeneration in its movements and balance. I have noticed that when normal birds alight on a perch they continually move head to keep an eye on the other aggressive members of the feeding group. The sick one had lost all alertness of what was happening in its community. When 2 or 3 times the number of birds at the feeder than the 3 holes will accommodate, there is less aggression and birds replace themselves in a fairly orderly process. At these times, individual birds remain at a hole approx. 2 seconds. It is at this time that the sick male finds less competition and can feed from the hole.

May 4, 1987

8:00 A.M. The sick male ^{rufous hummingbird} observed the last 2 days is improving. It still has difficulty breathing. The rate is 130 inspirations-expirations per minute. The breast separates from the gorget and this movement is translated back to wings and tail that moves up & down with each breath. Feathers are more fluffed on back than yesterday. It remained 2'-3' from feeder and when another hummingbird approached the feeder it would intercept it and chase it