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COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species: MOURNING WARBLER | Oporornis philadelphia
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 28 MAY 1982 (seen on subsequent days by others)Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ♂ Plumage: breeding adultLocality: BOULDER CREEK ALONG C.U. CAMPUS Elevation: ?Nearest town: BOULDER County: BOULDERTime(s) observed: ~ 7:30 A.M. (heard + seen poorly at other times of day)Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 10 - 15 secs. (well)

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

STEVE + DIANE LARSON (♂ of latter at EPO Biology
Univ. of Colorado
Boulder, CO, 80309)

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers)

MIKE MIDDLETON (Univ. of Colorado Museum, U. of Colorado
BOULDER, CO. 80309)

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):

dappled light on bird, from the side.Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 8X40 BINOCULARSDistance, and how measured: 10 - 12 m (est.)

If photographed, type of equipment and film: _____

Who else photographed the bird? _____

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

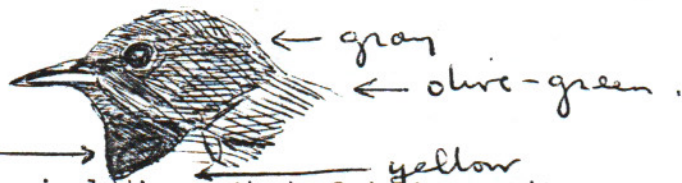
hopping through vegetation, rarely seen flying from bush to bush.

Describe in detail the bird's relative size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern. Include details of bill, wing and tail shape. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions and illustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observe in the field:

The bird was a moderately large warbler, e.g., ~ Audubon's sized. The bird was rather chunky, with stubby wings + tail. It also appeared a bit large-headed. When first seen, I noted Olive-green upperparts, including un-marked wings + tail; yellow underparts; Gray head; (over)

Description (continued): and bright pink legs. These indicated MacGillivray's Warbler, but when bird turned to face me, I noted a complete lack of any eyering, black lores, and a black patch across the lower throat-upper chest, separating the gray chin from yellow underparts. The bill was blackish above, and paler (pinkish) below, at least basally. The eye was dark.

sketch made
from sketch in
my notebook, made day
of sighting



Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

gave a loud "tchip" — MacGillivray's-like but seemingly slightly different (we noted this difference before actually seeing the bird) — call a bit more "ringing", metallic, had halset of calling when initially uncovered, but then falling silent and then disappearing.

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

Riparian floodplain vegetation. In tangled thickets.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species? ~~Mac~~ MacGillivray's can

be ~98% eliminated by the lack of an eyering, the distinct black "apron" on the chest indicated a male, and this species (i.e., philadelphia).

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

Have seen all species of Oporornis — a number of O. philadelphia and O. agilis in Indiana — mostly fall birds. Have never seen adult & morning! Much experience with O. tolmiei in Calif.

List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification: talked with Steve Larson, Mike Middleton

a) at time of observation: after they saw bird, compared notes. They supported my impressions.

b) after observation:

This report was written from reports made during ☒, after observation ☒ from memory ☒

Date and time report was written: initial notes made day of sighting: This report written 7/28/82

Reporting observer: TIM MANOLIS

Signature: Tim Manolis

Address: EPO BIOLOGY, UNIV. OF COLORADO, BOULDER, CO 80309

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CITY PARK
DENVER, CO 80205

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 4450 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110

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To: C.F.O. Records Committee

From: Doug and Judy Ward, 9224 BASELINE Rd.
Lafayette, CO 80026

Possible MOORING WARBLER -- *Oporornis phalaenopterus*

This description, which is a transcription of our notes after the observation, is submitted to supplement information offered by others who observed this bird in the same location at different times.

DATE: May 30, 1982; about 10:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Brushy hillside below Folsom Field Scoreboard adjacent to Boulder Creek on the Colo. St. Campus, Boulder, Boulder County, Colorado.

Observation data: Observed with 8x40

Bushnell binoculars at 30-40 ft. (estimated) for approximately 1-1½ minutes, the bird coming into full view off and on during that time as it fed low ~~in~~ to the ground in the brush that contained some open, dead patches. Doug saw it fly from the brush, pause momentarily on a wire fence and disappear into ~~the~~ a row of junipers at the top of the hill.

Lighting: Sky was overcast but bright. Our view was primarily against the green of vegetation and the rocky hillside.

Behavior:

Not nervous or flitly but moving rapidly, feeding a foot or so from ground level. Flight from shrubs to fence was direct and rapid.

No call note or chip given.

Plumage:

Did not appear
to be mottled
or scalloped.

Head: Uniform dark gray. No cheek patch.
Throat: Uniform dark gray, gradually and smoothly darkening to black at upper breast. (This "hood" seemed to be of an overall darker shade than that of MacKillops's with which we are most familiar. This might be due, however, to the fact that there was no discernable eye ring or partial eye ring on either side of the head, giving it a darker appearance.)
Breast: Bright yellow, sharply contrasting with the black; undertail coverts were a slightly lighter shade of yellow.
Back and wings: Olive brown.
Tail: Slightly darker olive brown.

Shape:

We did not take specific note of its wing / tail proportions. There were no other warblers at the time and place with which to compare. The observation time was so brief that we spent most of it looking for a trace of eye ring.

At home we consulted Birds of Colo. and CFO Journal. We have had no other field experience with this species.

Judy Ward