

CFO-ORC-FILE# 52-96-89

accepted 7-0

COLORADO RARE BIRD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ____ RARE RECORD ☒ UNUSUAL RECORD ____

Species: Mourning Warbler
(Vernacular Name)

Oporornis philadelphia
(Scientific Name)

Dates: May 18, 1996.

Number of birds seen: one.

Sex: male.

Plumage: adult breeding plumage.

Locality: Last Chance Reststop.

Nearest town: Last Chance.

County: Washington.

Time observed: 10:45-11:15AM.

Duration of observation: 5 minutes.

Other observers with you:

Bob Dickson 55 Villa Drive, Pueblo CO 81001 (719)-542-5847.

Dave Quesenberry

Other observers who saw the bird independently:

Joe Roller found the bird on May 16, 1996.

George Armburst saw it earlier on May 18, 1996.

Vic Zerbi saw it on May 19, 1996.

Perhaps others saw it during that time.

Light conditions:
excellent.

Optical equipment:
10X40 Baucsh & Lomb Binoculars.

Distance from bird:
8-30 feet.

Describe the bird's behavior:

I first noticed the bird as it flew from my left to perch on a bare branch low to the ground. I quickly put my binoculars on the bird and instantly identified it as a male Mourning Warbler. The stayed in low dense bushes for the entire time.

Describe the bird:

The size of the bird was about 5 1/4 inches. The overall shape was warbler shaped. The plumage was an adult male in breeding plumage. The color pattern is as follows: the head was dark gray. The face was dark gray. The nape was dark gray. The back was greenish. The wings were greenish, with no different color wing bars. The tail was greenish. The bill was light grayish. The eyes were dark, with no eyering or eye crescents. The chin, throat and breast was dark gray with black. The breast had the most black. The belly and under tail coverts were bright yellow. The sides and flanks were bright yellow. The legs and feet were pinkish. The shape of the bill was thin and short. The tail rounded and short. I identified the bird by its warbler shape and size, by the dark gray hood with no white around the eyes, and bright yellow underparts and by the shape.

Describe the bird's song and call if heard:

The bird gave a chip note a couple of times. The chip did not sound as loud as MacGillivray's Warbler which I also observed in this area.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

The bird was observed in a small riparian area on the SW intersection of Highway 71 & 36 in the town of Last Chance, Colorado. The bird was in a heavy tangled area with water.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species:

MacGillivray's Warbler: This species has white eye crescents in all plumages.

Connecticut Warbler: This species has a white eyering in all plumages.

Nashville Warbler: This species has a yellow throat and eyerings.

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

Mourning Warbler: This is my first of this species in Colorado. I have seen several in North Dakota in June of 1994.

MacGillivray's Warbler: I have seen many of this species in Colorado and also in Kansas.

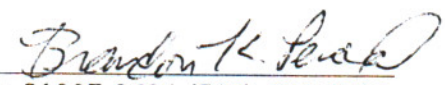
Connecticut Warbler: I have not seen this species.

Nashville Warbler: I have over ten in Colorado.

List books if they helped in your identification:

National Geographic Society's Bird's of North America.

This report was written from notes taken: during __, or after observation X from memory__.

Reporting observer: Brandon K. Percival Signature: 

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