

2003-50 (A)

Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form

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

Each table cell will automatically enlarge as you type!

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| CBRC FILE #: 2003-50 | | |
| RESULTS: | | |
| Species: (Common Name) Alder Flycatcher | | (Scientific Name) Empidonax alnorum |
| Date(s) of occurrence: June 7, 2003 | | |
| Number of birds seen: 1 | Sex: unknown to this observer | Plumage: fresh spring (breeding) |
| Exact location: approximately 8 miles south of Leadville, CO west of Highway 24, along unmarked county road west of, "Kobe" on DeLorme map page 47, D-7. | | |
| County: Lake | Nearest town: Leadville | Elevation: 9500 ft |
| Length of observation: 45 minutes | Time(s) of observation: 11:00 am | |
| Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: Tony Leukering, others from CFO convention fieldtrip of Lake County | | |
| Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): none | | |
| Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s) and observers position: thin high clouds, bright light, Sun was slightly south of directly overhead. Most observations were made looking east and northeast. | | |
| Optical equipment used: Nikon Venturer LX 8 X 32, Swarovski ATS 65 spotting scope with 30X fixed eyepiece | | |
| Distance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted): 50 feet | | |
| Was (Were) bird(s) photographed? Yes | If so, are you submitting photos? Yes | |
| Who took the photograph(s)? Myself (Tony Leukering photographed independently) | | |
| Describe the general and specific habitats in which the bird(s) occurred: small water filled gravel pit surrounded by thin rows of willows and other deciduous shrubs. Gravel pit was approximately 150 feet in diameter. | | |
| Describe the bird's (birds') behaviors, particularly behaviors that were used in supporting the identification, e.g., flying, feeding, habits: The bird was fly catching, mostly from one particular willow. He was occasionally chasing, and being chased by other species including Wilson's Warbler and Western Wood-Pewee. The bird would occasionally flick his tailed in a quick, shallow, upward fashion. No wing movement was noted when this occurred. | | |
| DESCRIPTION -- This is the most important part of this report. Include in these details the overall size and shape of the bird and give as many plumage details as possible, even including those that you feel might not have relevance to the specific identification. Please fill out this portion even if photos are accompanying your report. The bird was 5 to 6 inches in length (apparently), and sat upright while perched. It's head was small and round with a slight crest towards the rear of the head. The bird appeared smaller "smaller-headed" than a nearby Dusky Flycatcher. The tail was moderately long, flat at the bottom with rounded corners. There appeared to be little if any notch. The wind tip projection appeared moderate to long. Light (cream colored) wing-bars were created by the scapular tips. The tertial edges were pale (whitish) contrasting with the dark gray flight feathers. The bird was noticeably olive-green in the back, from the below the nape to the base of the tail. The upper surface of the tail was grayish (darker than the back and rump). The head, nape and face were also dark grayish with a hint of olive, with the top of the head being the darkest of these features. The underside of the bird included a whitish chin and throat that contrasted both with the dark auriculars and grayish narrow breast band. Below the breast band the color became lighter, to a lemon yellow in the belly, flanks and vent. The bird's bill appeared long and broad (compared with other empidonax species). The base of the bill was pale, flesh colored. There was a very slight, whitish eye-ring that was visible from certain angles mainly behind the eye. At times, the bird appeared to have no eye-ring at all. | | |
| Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted: did not note a partial song that others heard | | |

SIMILAR SPECIES – This is another critical part of your report. Please discuss how you eliminated similar species from consideration: Bird was determined to be an empidonax flycatcher based on size, shape, behavior, and field marks. The bird was placed into the "Traill's" group based on shape, lack of distinct eye-ring, white throat (contrasting with dark head and face) and relatively large bill size. From my own observation, The strong delineation between the dark auriculars and white throat below, coupled with the contrasting olive back and nape with the dark gray head, made me reasonably confident the bird was either an eastern form Willow Flycatcher or Alder Flycatcher. This observer did not note the partial song given and definitive species identification would have not occurred based on my observation alone.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? This was a life bird. I have had experience with most other ABA area empidonax species including Willow Flycatcher (both eastern and western populations). There was a Dusky Flycatcher and Western Wood-Pewee in the vicinity for comparison.

List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how these influenced your identification (during and after observation): Sibley's "The Sibley Guide to Birds" and Kaufman's "Peterson Field Guide Advanced Birding" were consulted after the observation.

This report was made from (check one) notes made during observation notes made after observation later from memory.

Date and time of written report: June 9, 2003 9:00 am MDT

Reporting observer: Glenn Walbek

Signature:

Reporting observer's address: 10880 Parker Vista Road

City: Parker

State: CO

Zip: 80138

**Send report to:
Colorado Bird Records Committee
Tony Leukering
PO Box 660
Brighton, CO 80601**

2003-50

rec'd 6/16/03

Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form (Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.) Each table cell will automatically enlarge as you type!

CBRC FILE #:

RESULTS:

Species: (Common Name) Alder Flycatcher (Scientific Name) Empidonax alorum

Date(s) of occurrence: June 7 03

Number of birds seen: Sex: Plumage: Alult

Exact location: Off hwy 24 on road 10 south of Leadville (Lake county) In willow at gravel pond.

County: Nearest town: Leadville Elevation: ?

Length of observation: 20 minute's Time(s) of observation: Between 9:30 - 11:30 am

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: Tony Leukering, Glenn Walback, Gregg Goodrich

Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): Same as above

Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s) and observers position: Full sun, looking down at the bird too, eye level at 20 feet away.

Optical equipment used: 10by 42 bi0. 10by 80 spcope

Distance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted): 10 to 25 feet

Was (Were) bird(s) photographed? If so, are you submitting photos? Yes Glenn Walback

Who took the photograph(s)? Same

Describe the general and specific habitats in which the bird(s) occurred: in willow tree;s along a small pond

Describe the bird's (birds') behaviors, particularly behaviors that were used in supporting the identification, e.g., flying, feeding, habits: *Flycatching like a flycatcher*

DESCRIPTION -- **This is the most important part of this report.** Include in these details the overall size and shape of the bird and give as many plumage details as possible, even including those that you feel might not have relevance to the specific identification. Please fill out this portion even if photos are accompanying your report. Distinct but narrow eye ring with greenes back, strong white throat with a defind line between the gray under the eye to the white throat.

Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted: One single call of rreeBEEa

SIMILAR SPECIES -- **This is another critical part of your report.** Please discuss how you eliminated similar species from consideration:

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? By call and the experience of Tony Leukering.

List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how these influenced your identification (during and after observation): Sibley Guide to bird's

This report was made from (check one) ___ notes made during observation ___ + ___ notes made after observation ___ later from memory.

Date and time of written report: June 9, 03

Reporting observer: Signature: LOCH KILPATRICK

Reporting observer's address: 3377 S. Clarkson st Apt. 205 Englewood Co 80011

City: State: Zip:

Send report to: Colorado Bird Records Committee Tony Leukering PO Box 660 Brighton, CO 80601



G. Walbek

6/7/03

2003-50

Alder Flycatcher

Lake Co, CO



G. Wallock

6/2/03

2003-50

Alder Flycatcher

Lake Co, CO

2



G. Walbeck

6/7/03

2003-50

Alder Flycatcher
Lake Co, CO



G. Walbeck

6/7/03

2003-50

Alder Flycatcher

Lake Co, CO



E Walbek

6/7/03

2003-50

Alder Flycatcher
Lake Co, CO