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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: HERMIT WARBLER

(Vernacular Name)

Dendroica occidentalis

(Scientific Name)

Date(s): Saturday May 4 1991Number of birds seen: 1Sex: ♂Plumage: BreedingLocality: Fountain Creek Regional ParkElevation: 5500 feetNearest town: Fountain, ColoradoCounty: El PasoTime(s) observed: 2Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 3 minutes then 1 minute

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

Cindy Hippencott PO Box 6599 Colorado Springs CO 80934719-634-7736George Maentz 815 N Arcadia Colorado Springs CO 80903719-471-1673

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

?

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

OVERCAST, LIGHT RAINOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 8x42 B&L Elite BinocularsDistance, and how measured: Estimated 25-50-75 feet at various timesIf photographed, type of equipment and film: N/AWho else photographed the bird? N/A

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

The bird was first seen in a very large flock of yellow-rumped warblers ^(both myrtle & Audubon's) (7+♂'s). The flock was moving through the canopy and understory of old cottonwood trees. The whole flock was busy feeding along the branches and amongst the leaves.

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:

I was trying to check every yellow-rumped warbler in this large flock 20± of birds when I saw this bird with a yellow face and black throat. I called the other 2 observers and together we pieced together various particulars of the bird (though finally we all saw the whole bird). Only saw the wing bars. George said the underparts lacked any streaking or yellow. I looked up the head pattern. Then the bird flew. We found it twice after that and were able to see

Description (continued):

A bird the size of yellow-rumped Warbler with a yellow face dark eye then bill and black throat. We were finally able to see the nape which was black with some of the black extending onto the back of the head. The back was darkish and the 2 pale wing bars were apparent. The underparts were whitish with no streaking or yellow visible.

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

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

Fountain Creek Regional Park - Riparian habitat along Fountain Creek - old Cottonwoods just beginning to leaf out

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Black-throated green has black streaks on sides and yellow underbelly
golden-cheeked Warbler has black line through eye and black streaks on side
Townsend's Warbler has black around the eye and black streaks on side
Townsend's x Hermit Warbler has streaking on the sides and yellow wash on breast -

Our conclusion was HERMIT WARBLER - because there was no black on the face
no streaking on the sides
no yellow on breast or belly

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

I have only seen 1 other Hermit Warbler - Carmel Valley Sept 1989

List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

a) at time of observation: National Geographic 2nd Edition to check the head pattern
Golden Guide

b) after observation: National Geographic 2nd Edition Field Guide to North American Birds

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation X from memory X
Date and time report was written: Thursday, May 9, 1991 10 PM.

Reporting observer: Toni BREVILLIER Signature: Toni Brevellier

Address: 2616 Ashgrove St, Colorado Springs CO 80906 719-540-5653

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
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