

Red 9/24/99 upl

1x1

ACCEPT 7-0

(Vireo solitarius)

(Scientific Name)

Sex:

7

Plumage: Adult

(PE 16)  
Sign

Elevation: 5000

County: Larimer

Time(s) observed: 1:15 PM

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): Twice for about 1 minute each

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

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 drizzle, flat light (sun was behind me and the clouds)

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 8x40 B&L slides

Distance, and how measured: 15-20 yards

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): Actively foraging for insects in small to medium-sized trees. Occasionally did "free fall" within crown when flying insect was flushed (typical of vireos).

Bird was always in company of thousands of warblers, feeding on aphids.

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 observed in the field: *looked like stocky warbler in flight, especially about the head because of thicker bill. Head bright blue-gray. Bright white thick eye-ring. Back and rump greenish-gray. Flanks extremely bright yellow. Bright white wingbars. Belly white-gray. Legs dark gray. Throat & breast whitish. Eye dark. Bill thick, like typical vireo, medium gray.*



## Behavior

### Description (continued):

Bird was usually in mid-crown and often in interior of trees. Didn't spend more than 15-30 seconds in any one tree. More "hyped up" than most vireos but many of the birds (kinglets, warblers, chickadees) appeared this way on this day of cold & rain. Mostly moving 5 to a with other birds (reverse migration?). Wind was up slope. Gave me 4-5 good looks.

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

Silent

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

Riparian lowland. Lots of small to medium, widely spaced Siberian elms, cottonwoods, Russian olives, coyote willow, crack/peachleaf willow, boxelders. Small ponds @ cattails and Powder River.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Strong head-back contrast plus greenish back and bright yellow flanks separated it from Cassin's. Dusky vireo. Whitish underparts eliminated Philadelphia. Dark eye eliminated white-eyed. Winkers eliminated warbling. Red-eyed.

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

This is the 4th Blue-headed I've seen in CO. Dates of other sightings were 24 Aug, 20 Sept & 23 Sept. I have seen many individuals of all other NA vireos except yellow-green and black-whiskered.

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

a) at time of observation: none

b) after observation: none

This report was written from reports made during X, after observation \_\_\_\_\_ from memory X

Date and time report was written: 19 Sept 1999 (5 PM)

Reporting observer: David Leatherman Signature: David Leatherman

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Return to:  
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