

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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

Species: Philadelphia Vireo | VIREO philadelphicus
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 31 May 1983Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: unknown Plumage: adultLocality: Compassvale at Gumbo, Rocky Elevation: _____Nearest town: Creek County: Logan/SevierTime(s) observed: 7:10 AM - 7:30 AMDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): seen several times at between 1-5 min. ea.

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

Judy Ward 9224 Baseline Rd., Lafayette, CO. 80026
660-8985

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):

Very poor; overcast, in a grove of treesOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 8X40 Bushnell binocularsDistance, and how measured: between 10-30 ft.; compared to heights of trees

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):

Feeding and resting in the tops of the trees. It seemed sluggish, maybe even more so than the Red-eyed Vireo (VIREO OLIVACEUS) with which it was feeding. It would sit very still between feeding spells.

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:

Size: It was a small bird, almost Warbler like; seemed smaller than Warbling Vireos (VIREO gilvus) that were in the area. Shape: similar to that of the Warbling Vireo, maybe slightly slimmer. Bill: seemed light weight for a vireo, almost approaching a warbler, but was definitely a vireo type.

Description (continued):

Plumage - head: The crown was grey. It had a white line from the top of the bill extending just past the eye. Through the eye, it had a dark line, the lores were almost black. This was not the sharp line the field guide show. There was a small white mark below the eye, possibly the eyelid, which gave it almost a broken speckled look. Cheeks were a light grey. Back wings and tail all were a uniform olive-grey. No wing bar at all. Tail seemed short. Beak Underparts: Throat was off-white. Breast to undertail coverts were entirely yellow. The yellow was brightest on the upper breast. Light yellow on undertail coverts.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): This bird didn't sing even though the Red-eyed it was with was singing vigorously.

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

It was seen in a tight grove of Chinese Elm on south side of Campground. There were about 10-15 feet in height. No underbrush, some larger cottonwood. How did you eliminate similarly appearing species? Warbler Vireo (V. gilvus) can be similarly colored, but even the brighter ones which can have some yellow on the underparts, don't show ~~the~~ as much yellow as this bird had on the breast, at least in my experience. This bird also had distinctly dark lores. Its face had a more clean cut appearance compared to a Warbler. Red-eyed (V. tinaceous) was eliminated because of its size and lack of yellow underparts. Also its face pattern was much brighter than the Philadelphia.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? (Similar species cont.) Bell's Vireo (V. bellii) was ruled out because this bird didn't have a full spectacle nor did it have wing bars. Finally, Tennessee Warbler (VERMIVORA PEREGRINA) was eliminated because of the Philadelphia's bill size and behavior. This also ruled out any other warblers. List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

- a) at time of observation: Didn't use a field guide to identify this bird; took notes during observation
- b) after observation: later used notes and Peterson Field Guide to Birds (2nd edition) to confirm identification.

This report was written from reports made during ☒ after observation ☐ from memory ☐
Date and time report was written: 31 May 1983

Reporting observer: Donna Waul Signature: Donna Waul

Address: 9224 Burlington Rd., Lafayette, CO. 80026

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

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