

A

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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

Species: Philadelphia Vireo | Vireo philadelphicus
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date ~~(A)~~: August 31, 1986Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ~~First fall~~ ^{Unknown} Plumage: First fallLocality: Cottonwood Canyon - 200' up the draw from Elevation: 4830'Nearest town: Kim 17 miles WNW; ^{the old house.} Pritchett 20 miles NE County: Las AnimasTime ~~(A)~~ observed: 9:30 AMDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 1 minute

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

Thompson Marsh 199 Ash St. Denver 80220 377-5380
Mary Jane Schock 2695 S. Winona Ct. Denver 80219 922-3144Other observers who saw the bird ~~independently~~ (give names, addresses, telephone numbers)Several other CFO field trip participants

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

Good light - The sun was at our backsOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): BinocularsDistance, and how measured: 75-100 feet est.

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):

Flicking around a tall, slim (ragweed?) stalk for 45 seconds.
Then it flew up on a wire across the stream and sat for 15 seconds.

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:

Warbler-Vireo size + shape. ~~But shorter tail and smaller head.~~ At first glance it was a vireo with no wing bars and a solid yellow throat, breast and undertail coverts. (There was no pale portion on the lower breast as described in the National Geographic Guide). The cap was a dull, brown bluish-gray which contrasted strongly with the pale olive-gray back.

Description (continued):

This eye-line seemed stronger to me than a Warbling Vireo.
The eye was inconspicuous but definitely not red. The bill
was short.

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

No sounds

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

Feeding in a weedy area near a small stream (~~along~~ a side draw off
Cottonwood Canyon). The area has good deciduous tree cover with good understory
growth.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Warbling Vireos don't have contrasting head and back colors. Warbling Vireos have
pale brownish-gray back color - whereas this bird's back was darker with a
definite greenish cast. The yellow on this bird was too extensive. Warbling Vireos
don't have yellow throats. Red-eyed Vireos are larger with red eyes and
a prominent eye line. Tennessee Warblers have long, slim bills. This bird had
a short, slightly stubby bill.

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

This is the third Philadelphia Vireo I have seen in Colorado.

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

a) at time of observation: None

b) after observation: Immediately afterward, we all looked at our
National Geographic Guide in the field. We concluded that the Golden Guide
was inadequate, & partly incorrect on this bird.

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation _____ from memory ☒
Date and time report was written: Sept. 1 9 PM

Reporting observer: L. W. Dan Bridges Signature: L. W. Dan Bridges

Address: 1925 S. Vaughn Way # 208 Aurora Co. 80014

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CITY PARK
DENVER, CO 80205