

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD

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UNUSUAL RECORD

|XX|

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

Species: **Philadelphia Vireo**
(Vernacular Name)**Vireo philadelphicus**
(Scientific Name)Date(s): **June 2, 1996**Number of birds seen: **1**

Sex:

Plumage: **Adult**Locality: **along the Poudre River, north of Prospect Road** Elevation: **5200'**
Nearest town: **Ft. Collins** County: **Larimer**Time(s) observed: **7:15am**Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): **2 min**Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers): **David Leatherman, 612 Stover St #7, Ft Collins, CO**Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):
noneLight conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light): **Sun was behind observers on two separate viewing occasions and locations and sidelit part of time as well.**Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): **10X binoculars**Distance, and how measured: **20 feet at closest; estimated**If photographed, type of equipment and film: **No photos**Who else photographed the bird? **none known**Describe the birds behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying): **First heard as it fed about 20 feet off the ground. It was searching leaves for food, resting only for several seconds at a time, singing again, and moving very actively. After about a minute, it flew to another tree in the area, repeated this behavior a few times, then flew to another tree where it continued to move quickly (frenetically), while calling and feeding.**

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:

Vireo shape and sized. Large, distinct vireo bill seen well and eliminates warbler. Overall color was

Description (continued):

gray-olive above and a light wash of lemony-yellow below. Yellow began at the throat, covering breast and most of belly; Sides seemed slightly lighter shade of yellow. There were obvious head markings, but entire head and facial pattern were seen well but only briefly; Darkish head with a dark line that contrasted with a white eyebrow and created a sharp demarcations (It was not dull like a Warbling Vireo); No wing bars. No spectacles. No streaking below.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): Best described as a slower version of a Red-eyed Vireo. Both observers made that comment in the field. It was calling when first discovered, in a short phrases (vireo fashion), repeated over and over again. Called as it was feeding and immediately upon landing in a new tree.

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

Forest edge, in deciduous trees that had leaves, adjacent to a river and an open field. There were some shrubs in the area but it was never seen less than 20 feet above the ground.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Song heard was identical to the Philadelphia Vireo recording on Eastern Peterson tapes.

Red-eyed Vireo- call similar but noticeably slower; lemony wash to throat, belly, sides and breast rather than white was obvious. Red-eyed Vireo was also present in the area allowing comparison w/i 10 min. of sighting. Facial pattern not quite right for REV.

Warbling Vireo - call distinctively different and had no "warble" to it. This species is sometimes lemony-yellow in fall but not in the belly area--more restricted to sides. Despite short look at face, the facial pattern was more distinct than WV, with dark line in addition to bright white eyebrow. This bird did not have the "wide-eyed" appearance of a WV. There were many WV's in area to compare with. Yellow-throated Vireo--call very different, yellow was not as bright and did not end abruptly on belly; no wingbars and it did not have yellow spectacles.

Solitary (Eastern form) and White-eyed Vireo--call very different, yellow was more uniform underneath; it did not have wingbars or spectacles.

All Warblers eliminated by pattern, voice, shape and bill.

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

I have seen this species 5 times and similarly appearing species many, many times.

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

a) at time of observation: None

b) after observation: National Geographic, Eastern Peterson tapes; Audubon Society Field Guide

This report was written from reports made during after observation XX from memory

Date and time report was written: June 4, 1996

Reporting observer: Bill Lisowsky

Signature:

Address: 2919 Silverplume Drive Ft Collins, CO 80526



UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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(Scientific Name)

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Plumage: adult?

Elevation: 5000'

County: Larimer

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Description (continued): We were both quite surprised. It was a small vireo chance to study this bird.

note identical to warbling. It looks like a yellowish warbling vireo with white over the eye and a tinge of yellow. (increased) was yellow.

It appeared spooky or start-tender. It's a few others were unlike any video I've ever seen, but perhaps not diagnostic for this species. My identification is as much a process of elimination as positive identification.

perch, in flight, duration): The song, not unlike a Red-eyed Vireo,

to Red-eyed. Unlike warbling vireo. Also heard this time give an agitation or alarm note, very similar to warbling.

birds were large sapling cottonwoods? one large cottonwood.

waxlike general appearance (although
waxy) waxy yellow

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? definite despite less than satisfactory

Good experience with red-eyed, yellow-throated and all plumbeous & wandering in CO and in the EAST.

a) at time of observation: none

Advanced/Birding
b) after observation:
Nat'l. Geo. (c.w.)
Peterson Guides (c.w.)
Aud. Soc. Field Guide
to N.A. Birds (eastern)
Field

Reporting observer: David Leatherman Signature: David A. Leatherman
Date and time report was written: 3 Sept 16 11 PM

trial comments:

viewed but realize the details provided for such a

I can't tell you about the scores at it. It had a dark
...
... etc.). I submitted mine to help

establish a pattern of expecting an accepted record.