

Rcd 10/18/99  
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1999 - 111

CFO-ORC FILE #

ACCEPT 7-0

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  
(Vernacular Name)

(Vireo philadelphicus)  
(Scientific Name)

Date(s): 26 September 1999

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: Adult?

Locality: Lamar Community College woods

Elevation:

Nearest town: Lamar

County: Prowers

Time(s) observed: 11:30 → 11:50 AM

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 20 minutes

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):

Sun was basically overhead to the south. Bird was west of me, about 6-8' above ground, on the outside of crown on east & south sides of tree

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 8x42 B&L Elites

Distance, and how measured: 20 feet to 30 feet

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):

calmly foraging in methodical fashion on outside of crown of Russian olive, presumably seeking aphids, very accommodating bird

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:

Relatively small, plump passerine with typical vireo bill. No wing bars. Greenish above, including nape, back, wing and tail. Wings mostly green also. Crown medium-dark gray. Whitish supercilium. Gray (not black) lores. Dark eye. Throat & upper breast bright lemon yellow. Lower breast and belly whitish-yellow. Undertail coverts yellow (slightly yellower than belly). Gray legs. Bill gray.



Description (continued):

Definite cap-nape contrast. Yellowest part of underparts was upper breast (only very slightly brighter than throat).

Not as slender as Red-eyed Vireo and fairly short-tailed. I had several wonderful looks at this bird, both from the side and head-on. Breast literally glowed in head-on view.

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:

Disturbed, open riparian woodland overtopped with live and dead cottonwoods. Bird was in large, shrubby Russian-olive in understory. Large individual and clumps of juniper nearby. Bird was due east of South gate (about 50 yards east of the "note box").

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species? Primary "competition" was with warbling vireo. Distribution of yellow on underparts was the primary criterion - yellowest on throat & breast, unlike warbling in yellowest of full plumage. Darkish lores and cap-nape contrast were helpful.

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

First good views I've had of this species in CO. I saw several in SE Texas during Spring 1998 (good experience). And I have seen several in Ohio. I have seen hundreds of warbling vireos in various subspecies in fall & spring. I have seen a few dozen Bell's vireos. This bird had absolutely no rufous and was too yellow for Bell's.

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

a) at time of observation: none

b) after observation: 3rd edition Nat'l. Geo, Advanced Birding Western Peterson

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

Date and time report was written: 10 October 1999

Reporting observer: David A. Leatherman Signature: David A. Leatherman

Address: 612 Stover St #7, Fort Collins CO 80524

Return to:  
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