

rec'd 11/10/04
COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

CFO-ORC FILE # 2003-68

(A)

NEW STATE RECORD _____ UNUSUAL RECORD X

Species: Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*)

Date: 29 August 2003

Number seen: one

Sex: unknown

Plumage: unknown

Locality: Barr Lake SP (150 meters north of Nature Center footbridge along trail)

Elevation: ~5,000 ft.

Nearest town: Brighton

County: Adams

Time observed: about 0800 hrs

Duration of observation: approximately 3 minutes total

Description: When I first saw this bird I called it an Orange-crowned Warbler, then Glenn Walbek casually asked if I had seen that yellow vireo as I was slowly coming to the realization that what I was looking at was a vireo. From that point on, Glenn and I watched it actively foraging in a mid-sized cottonwood tree along the side of the trail. My first impression, other than it being of an entirely different family, was that of a small passerine with bright yellow underparts and green upperparts. The blunt, hook-tipped bill was mostly dark. Underparts were bright yellow except for a small patch that appeared whitish on the lower belly; the throat and upper breast appeared more richly yellow than the rest of the underparts. The upperparts were mostly medium green, except that the green faded into gray on the head, becoming very gray on the crown. The face had a similar pattern as Warbling Vireo, but a little more striking and contrasty. The dark gray eyestripe extended from the lores to behind the eye, contrasting with the whitish supercilium and lower facial area. The eyes were dark.

Separation from other species: It was most similar to Warbling Vireo. However, the rich yellow underparts, green upperparts, and contrasting face should eliminate this species.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): none heard

What is your prior experience with this and similarly-appearing species? I have seen perhaps a dozen or so in the east.

Light conditions: sun behind me and low in the sky.

Optical equipment used: Zeiss 7x42 binocs

Distance, and how estimated: closest at 7 meters

Other observers who saw the bird with you: Glenn Walbek

Other observers who saw the bird independently: n/a

If photographed, type of equipment and film: Canon digital (photos by Glenn Walbek included with this report). I did not photograph this bird.

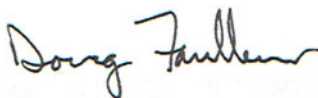
List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

a) at time of observation: none

b) after observation: National Geographic 3rd Ed.

Reporting observer: Doug Faulkner

Signature:



Address: Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, 14500 Lark Bunting Lane, Brighton, CO 80603

Date report was written: 29 August 2003

2003-68



Philadelphia Vireo, Barr Lake, Adams Co. 8-29-03, Walbek