

Rec'd 12/27/01 @

CFO-ORC FILE # 2001-130

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(s): 5 October 2001

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: "pale"

Locality: Two Buttes Reservoir (below dam) Elevation: ~ 4000'

Nearest town: Two Buttes County: Baca

Time(s) observed: 10 AM - 11 AM

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): about 30 minutes total

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):

In the open understory of cottonwoods ("bright" shade)

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 8x42

Distance, and how measured: as close as 5'

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):

"Bird was actively foraging from branch to branch, fidgety like a kinglet, brief flycatching episodes, perched on one leg (other foot injured and held up with toes clenched), gave the impression of being nervous or paranoid"

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:

Small, plump passerine with a short tail. Overall, fairly drab and without striking field marks. Crown medium gray-brown but not so dark as to give a decidedly "capped" look. Face pale, eye dark with indistinct pale area around eye (not what I would call an "eye-ring"). Bill was as thin and pointed as a vireo bill can be. Back, wings, nape and top of tail medium brown. Upperparts pale. Throat light yellow grading down to a fairly bright, "warm" yellow on the upper breast, fading to very light white-yellow on belly and then back to "warm" yellow throat and undertail coverts. I would say the breast and undertail were nearly the same shade of medium yellow with the breast-upper breast being very slightly the darker shade. No wing bars

Description (continued):

There was a modest eyeline but I would not call the lores black or notably dark. They were rather a modest gray (darker than the areas immediately above & below, however). Bill and legs medium gray. Tips of wings somewhat darker than rest of wing but not what I'd call black. Very slight tinge of green to the upper parts but nothing approaching the olive glow of Red-eyed Vireo or Tennessee warblers.

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

No sound.

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

Riparian woodland with cottonwoods, P-olive, low willows, fairly open in the lower-mid canopy where the bird spent its time.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Bill not sharp or needle-like enough to be Orange-crown warblers. Also pattern of underparts not right. Yellow was brightest on breast & undertail, unlike Warbling Vireo (esp. upper breast). Wingbars absent unlike Kinglets and Hutton's Vireo. Short tail unlike Warbling or Bell's Vireos (plus latter has 1 wingbar).
What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?
I have seen 5 Philadelphia Vireos in CO (this one by far the palest). I have seen 1000's of O-C warblers, 100's of Warbling Vireos, a few Hutton's Vireos, 1000's of R-C Kinglets, 100's of G-C Kinglets.

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

a) at time of observation: none

b) after observation: Sibley, Natl. Geo., Kaufmann

This report was written from reports made during X, after observation from memory X
Date and time report was written: 13 October 2001

Reporting observer: David Leatlerman Signature: David A. Leatlerman

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