

Colorado Field Ornithologists - Sight Record Form

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- -New State Record - X - Rare bird in CO  
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White-eyed Vireo  
(Species)

Vireo griseus  
(Scientific name)

Date(s):

October 2, 1993 11:30 AM -12:15 PM 10 minutes

Locality:

Viaco Ponds, Pueblo, along the Arkansas River, Pueblo  
County, Colorado.

Nearest town, county and state)

Optical equipment:

10X40 Baucsh & Lomb Custom Binoculars

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used:

Not Photographed.

Number of birds seen:1 Sex:unknown Plumage: immature

Light Conditions:

excellent

Distance from bird and how measured:

10-15 feet

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

When I spotted the bird it was in a russian olive tree near  
the top. The bird flew along a row of rushian olives, later  
it was in cottonwood trees. The bird was seen with a fall  
plumaged male Bay-breasted Warbler seen only by Laura  
Townsend, I saw this bird fly over my head. Also seen with  
it were a Palm Warbler and other warblers including  
Yellow-rumped and Orange-crowned. When the bird was in the  
rushian olives and cottonwoods it did not move very much.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

The bird was observed in Rushian Olive trees and cottonwoods  
which were very close to the Arkansas River.

Other observers who independently identified the bird  
(Please list names and address):

Laura Townsend with me

(I called Van Truan from a pay phone after we observed the bird, and Van could not go for the bird at that time).

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. The field marks used to identify the bird. Include Size, overall shape, plumage, and color pattern; details on shape of bill, wings, and tail.:

I identified the bird by it's vireo shape, vireo bill (thicker than warbler's bill, black eyes, eyeline that was yellow and yellow spectacles. Also the underparts were white with yellow flanks. The bird was about 5 inches in length, about the same size as the Orange-crowned Warblers around it and about 1/2 inches smaller than the Yellow-rumped Warblers near it. The bill was short, thick, and dark. The eyes were dark with yellow around the eyes to the bill (spectacles). There were a dark line from the bill to eye on both sides of the head. The face was gray, the head was dark gray, the nape was lighter gray. The back was grayish green. The wings were dark with two bright white wing bars on both wings. The tail was grayish dark. The throat was whiteish. The belly was white. The flanks were yellow. The breast had a little yellow on it. The undertail coverts were dull yellow. The legs and feet were grayish. The shape of the wings were typical vireo shape. The tail was also typical vireo shaped.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds if heard:  
No calls heard.

List similar species and how you eliminated them:  
Yellow-throated Vireo- By it's all yellow throat and breast.  
Thick-billed Vireo- By it's all yellow underparts.  
Pine Warbler- By it's warbler shape and by it's thinner bill.  
Bell's Vireo- By it's less distinct wing bars, and it's white spectacles.

Prior experience with this and similar species:  
I've seen three adult White-eyed Vireos in Colorado.  
I've seen two Yellow-throated Vireos in CO.  
I've seen 3 Pine Warblers in CO.  
I've seen 2 Bell's Vireos in CO, and probably more than 30 in AZ.  
I've never seen a Thick-billed Vireo.

Field Guides used to determine sighting:  
The Golden Guide The Birds of North America  
National Geographic Society's Birds of North America

This report was written from notes made during\_\_\_\_ after X;  
from memory\_\_\_\_.

Mailing address: 835 Harmony Dr.  
Pueblo West, Colorado 81007-2604

Signature: Brandon H. General  
(719)-547-3722

Return form to: Bill Prather  
C.F.O. Official Records Committee  
13810 Weld County Road 1  
Longmont, Colorado 80504