

DOCUMENTATION OF LATILONG PAPE BIRD SIGHTING
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

51-95-73

Accepted (7)

Species: White-eyed Vireo (Vernacular name) | Vireo griseus (Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students--those studying occurrences 50 years from now--must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Date (s): October 30, 1995 Time Bird Seen: 11:50am to 12:05pm
Locality: West end of Terlesa Drive below dam at "Frog Pond"
in Colorado City - Pueblo County - possible new latilo.
Nearest town, county and state: record for Trinidad Latilong #26
Optical equipment: 10x40 Zeiss binocular
If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: Adult
Light conditions: Good
Distance from bird, and how measured: 15 feet estimated

Describe the bird's overall behavior: This bird foraged low in willow tree with a Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Its movement was more sluggish than the Kinglet and was left active. It was not wary and allowed me to get very close to it.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Below dam of small pond in marshy area of cattails, low growing willows

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

None

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough.) Describe what you actually saw in the field.

Bird was about $\frac{1}{2}$ larger than Ruby-crowned Kinglet with which it Foraged. Bill was thicker than Kinglet's & longer than Kinglet's. Bill was dark. Overall coloring was olive green above & whitish below with lemon yellow flanks, whitish throat and undertail coverts. Nape was grayish. Wings were dark gray with two prominent light wingbars. The most prominent field mark was the bright yellow spectacles around the eye & extending ^{to} the lores. Tail was grayish & about the same color as wings. Legs were a slightly lighter shade of gray. I was close enough to observe the dark pupil of the bird's eye on the lighter background of the cornea.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

Bird made no sound.

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Solitary Vireo has white spectacles
Yellow throated Vireo has yellow throat & breast, & completely dark
White-eyed Vireo has whitish throat & yellow confined more to flanks

Prior experience with this and similar species:

I have seen many White-eyed Vireos in my home state of Missouri.
I have seen Solitary & Yellow-throated Vireos many times.

This report was written from notes made during _____ after ☒ observation; from memory _____.

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Signature: David A Silverman

Return Form To: CFO Records Committee
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