

51-96-64

Accepted 7-0

APPENDIX II

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

rec'd 6-12-

Species: White-eyed Vireo ; Vireo griseus
(Vernacular name) (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.

Dates (s): May 13, 1996 Time Bird Seen: 0930 to 0940

Locality : Fountain Creek Regional Park

Fountain, El Paso County, Colorado
Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Nikon 9x25 executive binoculars, plus others

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: U Plumage: Spring (alt)

Light conditions: Very good - bright with clouds

Distance from bird, and how measured: 10m (1 net length)

Describe the bird's overall behavior:
Feeding busily, in company with warbling vireo

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:
Edge of ponds, in Chinese elm

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):
Gary Canover, Dee Williams, Elissa Eckstein

APPENDIX II Continued

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.

Small, busy vireo - wing bars plainly evident, as well as yellow wash on sides of breast & flanks. Yellow lore & "spectacles", white eye

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

Recognized song (very familiar w/ this species from Florida)

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Yellow-throated vireo doesn't have a white iris.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

See above.

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

Name (print) : Susan R. Blackshaw

Mailing address: 1530 Robidoux Circle, COS 80915

Signature: Susan R. Blackshaw

Return Form To:

CFO Records Committee
c/o Curator--Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205

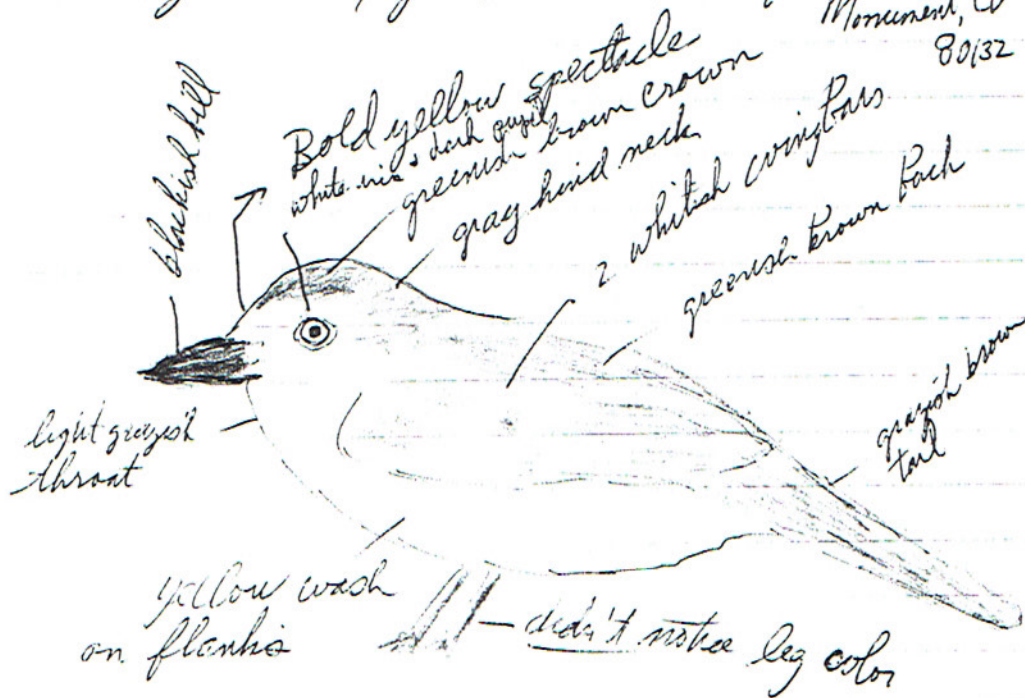
Where: El Paso County - Fountain Creek Regional Park

1996
5-15-96

51-96-64

White-eyed Vireo *Vireo griseus*

Seen 10 May 1996 Fountain Creek Regional Park
by Bill Maynard 18415 Wilkerson Dr.
Monument, CO 80132



Bill: dark, longish & thick (not nearly as thick as this attempt at a drawing) compared with 2 Orange-crowned Warblers foraging close by.

Forages in low thickets adjacent to Fountain Creek

I identified first by distinctive ^{explosive} song which to me sounds like: chick - da-da-da chick. I've heard many in Florida & East Texas. Most noticeable part of bird was the thick yellow spectacle. Next was the yellow on the flank. This bird was not as

difficult to see, ~~but~~ as most other white-eyed Vireos that I have watched, ^{it} even perched for ~ 3 minutes at around 1030 when it stopped singing. First heard at 0815. I showed it to Ken Pals of Fountain Creek Regional Park at ~ 1000. It moved about 200 meters upstream in that time.

I use Zeiss 10x40 binoculars. I could see the dark pupil surrounded by the white iris when it perched.

The song was somewhat incomplete and it wasn't repeated over & over & over as in Texas, but was sung now and again. No other vireo ~~bird~~ for that matter, has the explosive 1st and last note to its song.

Whittler & drawn from memory

No photos
No tape recording

Only other 2 birds that might look similar are yellow-throated Vireo which has a yellow spectacle but also has yellow chin & breast. My bird was without yellow chin, throat & breast. The other species to eliminate is (are) Cassin's Vireo and Eastern Solitary Vireo, both without a yellow spectacle. ~~but~~ all 3 (2) with songs that are of the question.