

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

51-90-46

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Species: Yellow-throated Vireo
(Vernacular name)

Vireo flavifrons
(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): 5 June 1990 Time Bird Seen: ~14:15 to ~14:45 pm

Locality: Chatfield Res.; Allen Kingfisher Bridge
Denver, Colorado
Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Nikon 9x30 binoculars

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: _____ Plumage: breeding

Light conditions: Excellent, bright sun

Distance from bird, and how measured: ~75 feet to 30 feet at closest

Describe the bird's overall behavior:
Singing loudly high in crowns of cottonwoods. This bird
fed high in the foliage but moved so leisurely that it
was hard to locate. Lethargic and hard to see, often sat
perched, still, and singing.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Riparian woodland.

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

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.

Med.-sized, about 6 inches long, compact and short-tailed. Rather stout, pointed black bill. Uppersides dark grey (wings), grayish (crissal) and olive (back). Two white wingbars. Face olive with yellow spectacle; and lores were dark. Chin, throat & breast lemon yellow — a continuation of yellow color of face. Belly and undertail white. Rump gray.

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

Given periodically, repeated a number of times, then would be silent. Leisurely warbling, loud, high "chu-west" "chu-weer" "chu-weer lit" etc.

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Small size, short tail & stout black bill indicate vireo. White wingbars eliminate Philadelphia & Red-eyed Vireos. Solitary Vireo lacks yellow spectacle & throat. White-eyed Vireo lacks yellow throat. Pine Warbler has yellow rump, ~~was~~ smaller spectacles, thinner bill.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

I've seen all N.A. vireos & many warblers.

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

NAME (print): MARK JANOS

Mailing address: 10 SEDUM CT. PUEBLO, CO 81001

Signature: Mark Janos

Return Form To: CFO Records Committee
c/o Curator - Dept. of Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐ UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species: Yellow-throated Vireo / Vireo flavifrons
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 5/26/91 Other observers saw this bird earlier and much later in seasonNumber of birds seen: 1 Sex: M Plumage: breedingLatilong: 11 Distribution Code: _____ Habitat Code: _____Locality: Chatfield State Park Elevation: 5460'Nearest town: Littleton County: JeffersonTime(s) observed: Mid-morningDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): off + on for an hour

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

none

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

Joey Kellner found, Dick Schatler, Mark Janos

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):

SunnyOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): Bushnell 10x40 CustomsDistance and how measured: 30' at closest - meter on cameraIf photographed, type of equipment and film: Pentax K-1000 with Sigma 400 lens, Fujichrome 100Who else photographed the bird: NONE

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

Sang loudly + frequently, song 2 phrases very similar to solitary vireo, foraged sluggishly in tall cottonwoods.

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 observed in the field:

The vireo-like song of question then answer, 3 notes each, 2nd set lower, was audible for 100 yards or more, and following it led to the bird.

Description (continued): The bill was thick and hooked at the tip of the upper mandible. There were two wing bars on Gray-based wings. The back was unstreaked. Brighter yellow "Spectacles" stood out on largely yellow face. The Throat and upper breast were bright yellow. Lower belly + undertail were white.

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

From perch. Described earlier. Song consisted of 2 phrases, joined. Often, long pauses between songs

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

medium to high in cottonwoods.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Vireo by song. No other Vireo has wingbars, yellow throat + breast (some races of Solitary have considerable yellow on flanks (blue headed) or lower breast + belly, but have white throats + spectacles. Pine warbler trills song, more active, thinner bill, etc.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

Seen in Texas previously.

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

a) At time of observation: None

b) After observation: Geographic

This report was written from reports made during , after observation , from memory and photos.

Date and time report was written: 2/26/91

Reporting observer: Duane Nelson Signature: Duane Nelson

Address: 1619 Ford St Golden, CO 80401

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to: CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CITY PARK
DENVER, CO 80205

