

## COLORADO RARE BIRD REPORT

## YELLOW-THROATED VIREO

Vireo flavifronsLocation: Pueblo City Park; Pueblo; Pueblo County, ColoradoDate: May 20, 1995Setting:

I was birding alone on a gray morning in Pueblo City Park. Not much was around. I saw this bird with my bare eye moving around in a small tree and I watched it as it flew to the top part of a Ponderosa Pine about 20 feet tall. I assumed it was a warbler and because I had glimpsed yellow and white below thought that I might be a Townsend's Warbler. I walked over to where it had landed and peered up through the pine needles and observed the bird from underneath and from the side for a period of about one minute. I watched it in my B & L 10x40 binoculars from about 20' distance. The bird flew off and I lost it and was unable to re-find it over the next hour.

Description:

It was an adult in breeding plumage. The bird was about 6" long, about the size of a Yellow-rumped Warbler, but plumper and shorter-tailed. The bill was gray, blunt, relatively stout and hooked at the tip. The eye was dark. The chin, throat and upper breast were a clear lemon yellow color that graded into the white lower breast, belly and undertail coverts. The face and sides of the nape and crown were olive-yellow. The bird had a strong yellow spectacle against the olive-colored face. I did not see the uppersides of the bird so I did not observe the back, rump or wings. I could see the edges of two strong white wingbars against a dark gray wing.

Similar Species:

The small size and relatively stout, blunt, hooked bill indicate a vireo. The most similar warbler, the Pine Warbler, lacks the broad yellow lores and has a yellowish, not grey, rump. Warbling, Philadelphia and Red-eyed vireos lack wingbars. Gray and Hutton's vireos lack the strong eyerings and lack the two-toned yellow/white underparts. Solitary Vireo lacks the yellow throat and eyering and has a grey, not greenish, crown. The White-eyed Vireo has a white iris, white throat and yellow-tinged flanks.

Experience with Species:

I have seen all similar warblers and vireos with which this bird might be confused. I have seen Yellow-throated Vireo two other times in Colorado.

This report is prepared from memory.

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