

Documentation of Rare Bird Sightings

Accepted 7.
rec'd 9-9-96by Bill Maynard 18645 Wettersfield Dr.
Monument, CO 80132→ Yellow-throated Vireo Vireo flavifrons
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Fountain Creek Regional Park Fountain, CO El Paso County

5/23/96 heard 5/25/96 heard & seen

1 ♂ adult plumage (AHY) - in Plains Cottonwood, 1st, very high up in mature tree on the 23rd not seen, & then in a smaller tree where seen well after some effort, singing.

I first heard this bird and thought that it might be a Yellow-throated Vireo because the song was the question/answer type song by Saltator ^{Vireos} (all 3) Gray Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo & Yellow-throated. Although I have recorded a Yellow-throated Vireo in southern New Mexico three years ago to the day, May 25, I don't quite know it. Anyway, this bird's ^{song} was slower than a Plumbeous Vireo. I timed the pause between the question & the answer at 5-7 seconds.

I returned on May 25 & heard the same song & finally saw a rain-soaked Vireo singing at the top of a 50' Plains Cottonwood. He eventually moved low enough, mid-story, so that I could see the yellow chin, throat & upper breast, and whitish belly. Although the bird was wet, I could see grayish wing with 2 whitish wingbars.

His head was mostly yellow-green, except that it had a mostly yellow, rhyak spectacle. The eye was dark, the bill long, dark gray & I could see that it had a hooked mandible. I didn't ^{just} see its upperparts, & I usually forget to notice leg color, so this time was no exception. There are no other yellow-spectacled Vireos with yellow chin, throat & breast. White-eyed Vireo has different song & is pale underneath except yellow flanks.

William R Maynard

The white-eyed l. w. that I reported remained at
Fountain Creek Nature center for 5 days, 5/10 - 5/14/96
2 at least

P.S. I use 10x40 Zeiss binoculars. Prior experience with this
species is limited to one tape recorded & well observed ^{bird} at
Rattlesnake Springs, NM & one in Texas on the Big Thicket
National Preserve many moons ago.