

Documentation Form

Species- Yellow-throated Vireo

Number- 1

Location- Neenoshe Reservoir, Kiowa Co., CO

Habitat- trees along lakeshore

Date- 10 May 1997

Time- 11:38-11:40 a.m. MDT

Observer- Stephen J. Dinsmore 4024 Arkansas Dr. Ames, IA 50014

Other observers- Richard L. Bunn

Description- We were birding the locust grove on the southwest side of the lake when Bunn noticed a smaller bird at eye level in a tree. I immediately recognized the bird as a Yellow-throated Vireo, a species I have seen on hundreds of occasions. The bird was rather large for a vireo and very sluggish in behavior. The crown and mantle were dull olive. The eye was dark and surrounded by bright yellow spectacles. The dark bill was short and very stout, unlike the bill of a warbler. The throat and upper breast were also a bright yellow. The lower belly and vent were white. The wings and tail were dark, and there were two well-defined wingbars on each wing. The bird did not vocalize.

Similar species and how eliminated- The larger size, bill shape, and more extensive white on the underparts eliminates Pine Warbler. No other vireo shows a combination of yellow spectacles, bright yellow throat and upper breast, and white wingbars.

Previous experience with this and similar species- Very familiar with this species which is a common breeder in many areas of the eastern U.S. where I have birded. Also familiar with other vireos and Pine Warbler, a possible species with which this bird could be confused.

Viewing conditions and equipment- Viewing conditions were excellent with clear skies and sun behind us. Estimated viewing distance was 10m. I used 10x42 binoculars.

References used- none

How long before field notes were written? none written

How long before this form was completed? written 11 May 1997