

CFO-ORC-FILE# 1998-96

✓rec'd 12-98

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS SIGHT RECORD FORM

Results: _____

Species:

Yellow-throated Vireo

Vireo flavifrons

Dates: 5/1/98

Number of birds seen: one

Sex: ?

Plumage: alternate

Locality: Ft. Lyons wildlife easement

Elevation: 4200 ft. (I think)

Nearest town: Ft. Lyon

County: Bent

Time observed: around 2:00 - 2:30 pm

Duration of observation: about 2 minutes

Other observers with you: Ric Olson, Vic Zerbe, Mark Janos, Brandon Percival

Other observers who saw the bird independently:

Light conditions: sun peeking through light clouds

Optical equipment: Leica 10X42 Ultras

Distance from bird: 30 feet over and 50 feet up in the tree

Describe the bird's behavior: The bird moved slowly and stayed near the tops of the trees. At one point it stayed motionless for 30 seconds.

Describe the bird (what you actually saw):

wings: Each wing had 2 white, medium broad wing bars. The wings were a darker green than the back. There were white edges on the tertials.

back: light green

rump & tail: spot of gray under rump. slight fork in tail.

head: yellow spectacles, yellow throat contrasted with greenish on top of head

underparts: breast and throat yellow, belly white

bill: thick vireo type bill was dark

Describe the bird's song and call if heard: I didn't hear anything

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird: it was high in deciduous trees along a swampy creek

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species:

White-eyed Vireo: eliminated by yellow throat and breast

Pine Warbler: eliminated by vireo bill, white belly

Thick-billed Vireo: eliminated by white belly, white wing bars

solitary type vireos: eliminated by yellow throat, yellow spectacles

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species: I have only seen about 3 or 4 Yellow-throated Vireos but I have seen hundreds of solitary type vireos, mostly in California and Colorado, plus dozens of White-eyed Vireos during several months of birding in the East.

List books if they helped in your identification: Birds of North America (NGS)

This report was written from notes taken during x, or after observation or from memory. I used a microcassette recorder to record my

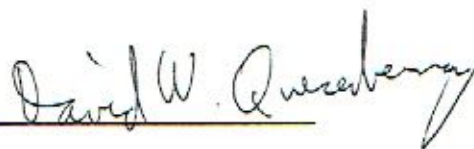
observations while I was observing the bird. I timed the playback to get the time of observation listed above. I transcribed the tape to written notes within a day or two of observation and wrote this from the written notes on 10/25/98.

Reporting observer:

b wq

David W. Quesenberry

Signature: _____

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David W. Quesenberry", is written over a horizontal line.

Address:

6254 S. Elmira Cir
Englewood, CO 80111

Mail to: Mark Janos, 10 Sedum Court, Pueblo, CO 81001.

1998-96

ACCEPTED (7-0)

COLORADO RARE BIRD REPORT

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO

Vireo flavifronsLocation: Ft. Lyon Wildlife Easement; near Las Animas; Bent County, ColoradoDate: May 1-2, 1998

Other observers who saw the bird were Vic Zerbi, Ric Olson, David Quesenberry, (on May 1) and Dave Silverman and Dave Johnson (on May 2)

Setting:

Vic Zerbi, Ric Olson, David Quesenberry and Bob Spencer were birding mid-afternoon on the 1st at Ft. Lyon Wildlife Easement. This is a wooded area above the Ft. Lyon marsh and consists almost entirely of a dense stand of elm trees. The bird was silent. Vic picked out the bird in a dense stand of trees as it foraged near the treetops with some Yellow-rumped Warblers. We first saw the bird at about 2:30 p.m. on the and saw it off and on that day for about another hour. The day was sunny and breezy. We observed it at medium height and higher, foraging and moving slowly in scattered trees above water -- usually at distances of about 50 feet. I observed it with B & L Elite 10x42 binoculars from about 50'.

Description:

The bird was an adult in breeding plumage. It was medium-sized; stocky with a thin tail and about 6" long. It was relatively large-headed. The bill (distinctly stout; short; barely hooked at the tip) and legs were dark gray; the eyes were black. The undersides were yellow in front (chin, throat and breast) and white behind (lower belly and undertail). The upperparts (crown, face and back) were yellowish-green. The rump was distinctly grayer. It had thick yellow "spectacles". The wing was short, thin and square. The wings and tail were blackish and it had two strong white wingbars.

Similar Species:

The 6" size; blunt, hooked bill indicate a vireo. The Pine Warbler is most similar in pattern but lacks the broad yellow lores and has a yellowish, not gray, 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 gray, 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 eight other times in Colorado.

This report is prepared directly from notes made after observation.

Mark Janos
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