

Red
10/18/99
wpl

CFO-ORC FILE

1999 - 106

ACCEPT 7-0

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD

UNUSUAL RECORD

X

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

Species: Yellow-throated Vireo
(Vernacular Name)

(Vireo flavifrons)
(Scientific Name)

Date(s): 7 October 1999

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

Locality: 612 Stover St. (courtyard) Elevation: 5000'

Nearest town: Fort Collins County: Larimer

Time(s) observed: 4:45 PM

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 10 minutes

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

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

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

Light was from SW. Bird was n.w. of me

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 8x42 B&L 24's

Distance, and how measured: 20 yards

If photographed, type of equipment and film: _____

Who else photographed the bird? _____

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

Foraging in boxelder and weeping willow. Saw it catch and eat large gray stink bug (Psephenus sp.). Fairly active and "hyper", as were all the other birds (unsettled weather in mts. this day).

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: Pump, largeish vireo. Greenish gray above. Two wide, white wing bars. Wings mostly gray. Belly white. Flanks and breast bright yellow. Broad yellow spectacles. Eye dark. Throat bright yellow. Bill dark and thick (typical vireo). Legs dark gray. Saw some white in tail when it flew, but appeared to be wings & outer feathers, not spots.

Description (continued): Back plain green-gray, unstriped. Bird was with, for the most part, yellow-rumped warblers and robins & cedar waxwings. Seemed a little plumper than yellow-rumps with a proportionately shorter tail. Bigger than a ruby-crowned kinglet.

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

None

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

Small collection of mature trees, including weeping willow, Siberian elm, boxelder, Rocky Mt juniper, and CO blue spruce. Urban neighborhood (actually a courtyard, with trees surrounding grassy, sunken courtyard).

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species? Bill was clearly a vireo as opposed to warblers. This eliminated pine warblers. Yellow spectacles and throat-breast-flanks eliminated other vireos with yellow such as white-eyed, Philadelphia and more warblers. Bold neighbors quickly eliminated Bell's warbler, red-eyed.

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

I have seen four in Colorado prior to this sighting and dozens in the East. I have seen several individuals all all NA vireos except Black-whiskered & Yellow-green & Yucatan.

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

a) at time of observation: none

b) after observation: none

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation _____ from memory X

Date and time report was written: 9 October 1999 11 PM

Reporting observer: David A. Leatherman Signature: David A. Leatherman

Address: 612 Stover St #7, Ft Collins CO 80524

Return to:
Bill Prather
C.F.O. Official Records Committee
13810 WCR-1
Longmont, Colorado 80504