

## Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form

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

6-30 Jul 01

2001-63

***Each table cell will automatically enlarge as you type!***

CFO-RC FILE X: 2001-022

### RESULTS:

Species:(Common Name) Worm-eating Warbler

(Scientific Name) *Helminthos vermivorus*

Date(s) of occurrence: June 5, 2001

Number of birds seen: One (1)

Sex: unknown

Plumage: adult

Exact location: 40 ft. inside the front entrance gate at Muir Springs Park in Fort Morgan

County: Morgan

Nearest town: Fort Morgan

Elevation: 4,300 ft.

Length of observation: 5 minutes

Time(s) of observation: ~0900 MDT

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: Peter Kaestner

Other Observers who independently saw the bird(s):

Light Conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s); position: Strong morning sun at approx. 90 degree angle to bird. Bird often in shadow of tree.

Optical equipment used: Swift Audubon 8.5 x 44 binocular

Distance from bird(s) (estimated unless otherwise noted): 40 ft.

Was bird(s) photographed? No

If so, have you submitted photos? n/a

Who took the photographs? n/a

Describe the general and specific habitat in which the bird(s) occurred: Lowland Riparian: mixed cottonwood, willow and other deciduous trees and thickets.

Describe the bird's behavior (flying, feeding, habits, behaviors used in identifying the Species or in supporting the identification): The bird was foraging for food in a large thicket, approx. 6-8 feet above the ground. The bird responded to "pishing" and perched several times on exposed branches, offering unobstructed views.

Describe the bird in detail. This is the most important part of this report. Include the overall size and shape and how you placed the bird in the general group that you did. Give complete details of plumage, including head, throat, undersides, nape, back, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird(s). Describe other important details, such as color and shape of bill, legs, eye, (etc.) that were important in making the identification. (Fill out this portion even if photographs are submitted; you may attach additional sheets, drawings, field sketches or copy field notes): The bird was approximately 5 inches long, warbler-shaped, with an olive-brown back, a buff-colored head with bold, blackish lateral head stripes, and buffy underparts. The head displayed blackish lateral crown stripes extending from the supraloral region at the base of the bill to the hindneck, blackish lateral transocular stripes extending from in front of the eye to the back of the auricular region, and dark eyes.

Describe bird's call or song: The bird did not vocalize during the period of observation.

Discuss similar species and how you eliminated them: Differentiated from Swainson's Warbler (*Limnethlypis swainsonii*) by bold head stripes. No other similar species.


What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? Both observers have seen Worm-eating Warbler on numerous occasions outside of Colorado.

List books, guides, recordings or other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation): The Sibley Guide to Birds

This report is from notes made during or after ☒ observation or later from memory

Date of written report: July 18, 2001

Reporting observer: Robert L. Batchelder

Signature: 

Reporting Observer's Address: 5643 Governor's Pond Circle

City: Alexandria

State: Virginia

Zip: 22310

Send report to:  
Colorado Birds Record Committee  
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