

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS
 VERIFYING REPORT OF AN UNUSUAL RECORD

accepted
 GR 12/9/73

1. Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*)
2. One bird
3. Cimarron River, Baca County, Colorado
4. Seen May 5, 1973, from about 3:00 p.m. for five minutes.
6. Warbler size and shape, perhaps a bit smaller and shorter-tailed than Audubons. Very thin bill. A gray warbler, with ~~xxxx~~ whitish breast; black and white pattern on face--black eye stripe and throat, white in between. Bright yellow-gold crown, larger than the crown patch, for example, on a Chipping Sparrow, and more conspicuous. Yellow slash in wings, ~~and~~ broad yellow-gold stripe.
7. Bird silent.
8. Bird first seen feeding in lower branches of a cottonwood--about 12 feet up, feeding by picking insects (?) from the branches (no leaves out yet). It flew to a line of Tamarisk, and skulked or fed in several of these low bushes while we stalked it. With it were 3-5 Audubon's and an Orange-crowned Warbler.
9. Cimarron is a cottonwood/tamarisk sandy river bottom, bird occurred both in cottonwoods and tamarisk.
10. The field marks are so distinctive it seems hard to think of a similar species. It wasn't a Golden-crowned Kinglet due to the facial markings; and due to its ~~max~~ greater willingness to be seen, different shape, habitat, and behavior. It wasn't a Bachman's because of white breast, gray tenor to plumage, yellow crown. Ditto Yellowthroat and Kentucky and Hooded Warblers. It was not a hybrid Brewster because of grayness, white in face. It wasn't an Audubon's because of black throat, large yellow crown, ditto Myrtle, Yellow-throated, Parula, Magnolia, Blackburnian.
11. 20-40 feet estimate
12. Various binoculars, 7 x 35 to 10 x 50.
13. Cloudy bright.
14. One seen previously at CFO convention at Boulder last year.
15. CFO convention last year.
- 16 Other observers: Paul Julian, Lesley Julian, Doug Stotz, Dave McCargo, Jr.
17. The others agreed, and will submit descriptions if necessary.
18. All four listed above.
19. I consulted Pough in order to ascertain scientific name and to figure out what species could possibly be similar. Item 10 above influenced completely by Pough, but no others except second part Item 1. Description from notes in field.
20. No photographs

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May 7, 1973

Hugh Kingery