

CFO-ORC FILE # 52-91-59
A

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐

UNUSUAL RECORD ☒

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

Species: GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER | Vermivora chrysoptera
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)

Date(s): June 6, 1990

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ♂ Plumage: Breeding

Locality: Bear Creek Nature Center Colorado Springs CO Elevation: 6,500 feet

Nearest town: Colorado Springs County: El Paso

Time(s) observed: 1 6³⁰ pm

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

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

Ann Higgins Colorado Springs

Peter King " " "

plus others at different times during the same day

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

Jo Romero
Marcel Ribet

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

Time 6³⁰ pm partly cloudy to evening, sun light conditions where the bird perched excellent

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

Distance, and how measured: 20 feet estimate

If photographed, type of equipment and film: N/A

Who else photographed the bird? N/A

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

The bird was perched on a branch about 10' above eye level singing its song about once a minute

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 observe in the field:

What a beautiful bird. The striking contrast of the head with a black mask through the eye and the golden crown patch. The very black throat in contrast to the pale grey underparts. The yellow patch on the wing, very apparent. A grey back and the rest of the bird was hidden by Gambel's oak leaves. There was a small black, pointed tail on this warbler sized bird.

Description (continued):

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

The song was of a buzz-like quality. The first buzz high then followed by 1 or 2 (and occasionally 3) lower notes.

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

This bird was seen in riparian habitat set aside as a park about 1973/74. Consists of large cottonwood, Gambel's Oak, a few fruit trees. The bird was seen first in an old apple tree. Undisturbed brush (stream side) + grass.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

Possible confusion might have been between Blue-winged Golden-wing hybrid eg Lawrence's Warbler but this bird had greyish underparts whereas the "Lawrence's" has a yellow wash. Townsend's Warbler has a black crown plus a yellow wash on the breast with black streaks on the sides also it has yellow surrounding the black on the face.

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

This was the first time I had ever seen this bird.

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

← before seeing this bird consulted National Geographic
a) at time of observation: 2nd Edition

b) after observation: National Geographic 2nd Edition; Roger Tory Peterson Field Guide to Western Birds, 3rd Edition

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation X from memory _____
Date and time report was written: June 6, 1990 7:30 pm

Reporting observer: Toni Breuillier Signature: Toni Breuillier

Address: 2616 Ashgrove St Colorado Springs CO 80906

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

Return to:

CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
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