

Accepted
JR 10/2/74

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS-OFFICIAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

November 7, 1973

Mr. David W. Lupton, Head
Serials Section
Colorado State University Libraries
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

Dear Dave,

I am trying to run down all the occurrences of the Blue-winged Warbler in Colorado. So far as I can determine, there have been six sight reports, all without documentation. I have written to all the observers involved in these sightings in an attempt to collect written documentation. However, I am unable to determine who the observers were who reported a Blue-winged Warbler on June 19, 1970 during the joint Cooper-Wilson-CFO ornithological societies meetings in Fort Collins. Evidently Mr. and Mrs. Chandler Robbins and others witnessed this species during a field trip held in conjunction with these meetings. Since I am not particularly interested in contacting the Robbins, could you possibly research your records and see if you can come up with who the others were so that I may contact them? Apparently there is a reference to this sighting in the Ptarmigan, Volume 1, Number 7, July 1970. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Jack Reddick

CHAIRMAN

CFO Official Records Committee

June 21

NOV 12 1973

Dear Jack -

The sighting was in Spring Canyon, Fort Collins. The Robbins family and one other woman (from Texas? -- name not known to me -- she was from the South somewhere) were in a wooded area along a creek bank away from the rest of the group. Chan. Robbins first heard the bird singing and identified it from the song; then, after some searching he, his wife, and this unidentified woman verified the bird by sight. I ... the bird -- it didn't stay long -- by

presence. Other members of the group present in Spring Canyon may have seen the bird or heard it sing - I am not certain. The observation was made on the $\frac{1}{2}$ day "counting" trip to Spring Canyon prior to the regular trip stop on June 21st on the way to Rocky Mountain Natl. Park. The bird was not in Spring Canyon on June 21st. Clait Braun may have been in the group on June 19th & remember more details.

Sorry I can't be more specific about other observers. There was no doubt in the Robbin's mind about the identification, however.

Sincerely,

P.S. Just talked to Ron Ryder. He thinks that either Meredith Morris &/or Peter Hall may also have seen this bird. Apparently, according to Ron, it was seen on + off throughout the day and the song was (or may have been) recorded by Clait Braun. Ron Ryder appears to be in no doubt that it was a Blue-winged Warbler.

52-74-83

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10/7/74

10 Emerson #503
Denver, Colo 80218
Nov. 9, 1973

Dear Chan:

This letter covers a department of ancient history. When Wilson & Cooper Societies had their joint meeting at Fort Collins several years ago, a bird almost-new to Colorado was seen on one of the field trips. Namely, Blue-winged Warbler.

Paul Julian recalls you as being the leader of the trip or one of the major-domos on it. While we fear that an observation of such a common bird to an easterner like you may not have left an impression--either in your mind or in your notes--we are wondering whether you have sufficient recollection to fill in our Colorado Field Ornithologists' Form on the observation.

If you do, please send it to Jack Reddall at the address below.

On the subject of the Breeding Bird Surveys, I really regret that the Am. Birds deadline is such that it prevents use of the survey information in my report. You have such thorough coverage of the Great Basin region particularly, with numerical data, that it would be useful to me if I could try to use it.

I would still be interested in the final analysis sheet by species which you sent last year, if you have an extra copy. (My area has now shrunk to 4 states: Colorado Wyoming, Utah, & Nevada.)

Best regards,

Hugh Kingery

cc: Jack Reddall
4450 South Alton Street
Englewood, Colorado 80110

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VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN UNUSUAL RECORD

1. Species: Blue-winged Warbler | Vermivora pinus 2. Number: _____
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)
3. Location: Spring Canyon, Ft. Collins, Larimer County
4. Date(s): June 19, 1970 5. Time bird seen: _____ to _____
6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern. (Describe in great detail all parts of the plumage including beak and feet coloration in addition to the diagnostic characteristics; however, include only what actually was seen in the field):
Identified by song. Not well seen, as it stayed in the treetops. As I recall, we chased the bird for at least 15 minutes, heard it sing its typical 2-buzz song many times, saw it briefly and confirmed that it was not a Brewster's or Lawrence's hybrid, either of which sings the typical Blue-wing song at times.
7. Description of voice, if heard: Typical high-pitched buzz-bree territorial song.
8. Description of behavior: Stayed high in tall trees, flying from one tree to another.
9. Habitat--general: dense growth of deciduous trees along small stream.
specific:
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated 6, 7 and 8 above; Explain:
Only the hybrids have a similar song.
11. Distance (how measured?): Distance slightly greater than height of trees.
12. Optical equipment: 10 x 50 binocs
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and observer):
Seen from various positions, but only briefly.
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
Annually for more than 35 years; common breeder near home.
15. What made you think this species was unusual or rare? Had not seen it west of Wisconsin.
16. Other observers: Robert H. Hamre, Dr. and Mrs. Walter Ereckenridge, Savages.
17. Did others agree with your identification? Yes.
18. Other observers who independently identified this bird: Do not recall.
19. Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation: None.
20. If bird was photographed, please attach pictures and describe equipment used:
Chandler J. Robbins Street Address: 7902 Brooklyn Bridge Rd., Laurel, Md.
Signature
Date Prepared: Jan. 5, 1974 City and State: _____

(USE THE REVERSE, OR ADDITIONAL PAGES, IF NECESSARY)

* Time of day does not appear in field notebook, but I probably have it on magnetic tape and will supply it later if I have it. I probably have a tape recording of this Warbler also, but my tapes from this trip have not yet been catalogued. S of Blue-winged