

☒ RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD☐ NEW STATE RECORD☒ ACCEPTED☐ REJECTED

JR 8/26/76

Species: BLUE-WINGED WARBLERVermivora pinus

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): 6 June 1976Time Bird Seen: 0815-0830; 1045 to 1115; 1300-1340Locality: Barr Lake State ParkNearest Town: BrightonCounty: Adams

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

No body that I know of for sure, but possibly Mildred Snyder or Jo TrainorOptical Equipment: 10 X 50 binoculars

If photographed, type of equipment used: _____

Light Conditions: bird sometimes in open shade, sometimes coming out into the sunDistance from bird (how measured): Minimum estimated distance of 30-35 feetNumber of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: Male Plumage: Adult

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

The bird spent nearly all of its time feeding in a group of willows, always within 10 feet of the ground, except once when it flew into a cottonwood over my head about 30 feet from the ground. It was less nervous and active than a Dendroica warbler, and kept in the interior of the bushes, so that I would sometimes go 15-20 minutes without glimpsing the bird although I kept watching the willows continuously. Early in the morning, the bird would stop several times a minute to sing, later in the day it still sang, but less frequently (once every 2 minutes or so, or even less sometimes).

Describe in great detail the bird's size, overall shape, plumage and color-pattern.

Include details on shape of bill, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to the marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance in field guide descriptions is not enough. Describe what you actually saw in the field:

A warbler with a fairly short tail (slightly forked I believe), wings of average length, and a fairly short, thin black bill. Forehead and crown bright yellow. Nape and back unmarked green. A thin black line went from the lores, through the eyes and connecting with the nape. Wings blue-gray with 2 fairly strong white wingbars. Rump and uppertail coverts greenish-gray. Upper side of tail gray, underside of the tail mostly white with some gray in the middle. Throat, breast, sides and flanks, belly bright yellow, becoming somewhat lighter on belly and indistinctly shading into whitish on the undertail coverts. No streaks or spots on upperparts or underparts (only marks on the bird were the two wingbars and the line through the eye).

(OVER)

Describe the bird's song or call, if heard, including method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight, etc:

Song: Somewhat difficult to describe to precisely, but basically it was rather high-pitched, thin, strident and penetrating series of notes. Made of two parts, with the following a rough description: zzzzzz-zu-see. No call notes heard.

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

Willows beneath tall cottonwoods bordering canal leading into large plains reservoir.

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

Prothonotary-No wingbars, no green on head, no line through head, larger bill.

Yellow-Wingbars yellow, not white, wings olive, not gray, head pattern less distinct with no line through eye, male has chestnut streaks on breast, yellow tail spots, different song.

The combinations of the major field marks as given above, readily eliminates all species, with only the Prothonotary and Yellow remotely resembling it.

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

Have seen Blue-winged Warblers only once before: 4 (3 males, 1 female) in NW Ohio on 22 August 1970. I have never seen one before in Colorado.

Have seen Yellow Warbler many times.

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?

Standard field guides consulted later, confirmed.

This report was written from notes made during X after observation; from memory

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