

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD ☐

UNUSUAL RECORD ☐

CFO-ORC FILE # 52-81-20

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

Species: Blue-winged Warbler
(Vernacular Name)

1 Vermivora pinus
(Scientific Name)

Date(s): June 15, 1981

Number of birds seen: one Sex: male Plumage: adult, breeding

Locality: University of Colorado campus, near old skate rink Elevation: 5300'

Nearest town: In Boulder County: Boulder

Time(s) observed: mid-afternoon

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.) 20 secs of clear viewing, 5 mins obstructed

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

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

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):
sun was high and full but filtered through the leaves, and behind me

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 7 X 50 binocs, Bushnell

Distance, and how measured: 50 feet; estimated

If photographed, type of equipment and film: _____

Who else photographed the bird? _____

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

Bird was feeding about 40 ft. high in a tree going back and forth on a branch, some times upright, sometimes upside down. It was feeding on something in the leaves, insects probably. The bird then flew up the slope and was feeding lower but still in the tops of 30 ft. tall trees.

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 observed in the field:

The bird was about the size of the nearby yellow warblers, but slimmer, the bill was also noticeably thinner but about the same length. The breast and belly were a bright yellow but not the same yellow as a Yellow Warbler or the Orangeish yellow of a Parula. The under-tail coverts were a very light yellow. The under tail was yellow but seemed to be greyer. The yellow of the breast continued up to the throat, side of the neck through the face to the top of the head. The nape was a dark greenish-yellow which continued down the back to the upper tail coverts. The top of the tail was tinted with a little bit of grey, making it lighter. The upper wing coverts were a slatey blue, there was also two strong white wing bars. The secondaries and Primaries of the wings were the same greygreenish yellow of the tail but slightly ~~more~~ darker. The legs were flesh colored (and feet). The upper and lower mandible were a dark grey or a glossy black. The eye was black, There was a black and thin line running from the eye to the bill.

(OVER)

Description, (continued)

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): The bird gave a buzzy call note while feeding, it may have been part of the song and I missed the rest.

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:
The area around where I saw the bird was tall mature Cottonwoods on the flood plain of Boulder Creek. The slope is covered with smaller (younger) cottonwoods, plum bushes, and Choke cherry, making a thick under brush.
How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?
Yellow Warbler has a different yellow, no slate or bars on wings, and does to my knowledge give a buzzy call note.
Pathonatory Warbler has a different orange and does not have white wing bars.
Wilson's Warbler has a black cap, no wing bars, and usually feeds close to ground.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?
The Blue-winged Warbler was new for me, Yellow's are nesting all over there and I was able to compare them side by side, (male to male; female Yellow was on a nest). I saw Pathonatriys August 30 in Virginia commonly. I saw a few Wilson's that day and know both the female and male easily.

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

- a) at time of observation: ~~XXXXX~~ Birds of N. America, my mother who has seen blue-wing in migration in Virginia and North Carolina, she did not see this bird.
- b) after observation:

This report was written from notes made during x, after observation; from memory .

Date and time report was written: June 15, 1981, 1900 hours

Reporting observer: Larry Halsey

Signature: Larry Halsey

Address: 6422 Blue-bird Ave. Longmont, Colo. 80501

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below.

Return to: CURATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,
CITY PARK
DENVER, COLORADO 80205