

APPENDIX II

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

A

Species: Blue-winged Warbler ; Vermivora Pinus
(Vernacular name) (Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students -- those studying occurrences 50 years from now -- must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Dates (s): May 20, 1984 Time Bird Seen: 2:30 pm to less than 5 minutesLocality: Limon, Lincoln Co., Colo. on 287 Lat/long 13
5.3 miles so E. Big Sandy Creek bottoms - Forestall Ranch
Nearest town, county and state:Optical equipment: 10 x 50 (2 pr.) ; 7 x 35 binoculars

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: _____

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: M Plumage: SummerLight conditions: Sun behind observers - very goodDistance from bird, and how measured: est. 50 feet, 25' height in tree

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

Foraging in tree top, easily seen, deliberate movement.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Riparian lowlands along Big Sandy Creek. Cottonwoods at various sizes.
Sg P - Rph

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

Roberta Winn - Rt. 2, Box 296, Sedalia, CO. 80135Walter Kuening (see address below)

A Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough). Describe what you actually saw in the field.

Small warbler size (At first glimpse expected it to be a yellow warbler). Bright yellow underparts, without streaking. Bright yellow head. Thin black eye streak. Dark wings, distinct 2 white wing bars. Underneath tail, grayish, no tail spots. Bill - small, thin, dark. Upper parts, dark - could not be observed well as we were seeing it from below.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

Silent.

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

yellow warbler - no streaking. Has eye-streak + wing bars not on yellow warbler
Wilson's " - had no black cap.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

No previous exp. with this species - but considerable exp. with other warblers.

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

Name (print) : RUTH R KUENNING

Mailing address: 1228 N. Farragut Ave, Colo Spgs, CO 80909

Signature: Ruth R. Kuennig

Return Form To:

CFO Records Committee
c/o Curator - Dept. of Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205