

1997-88
ACCEPTED 7-0

CFO-RC FILE #: rec'd 9-20-97v

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS
SIGHT RECORD FORM

RESULTS : _____

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPHS AND ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY.

SPECIES: YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER Dendroica dominica
(Common Name) (Scientific Name)

DATE(S) OF OCCURRENCE: 5.22.97

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1 SEX: MALE PLUMAGE: ALTERNATE

EXACT LOCATION: LAKE HENRY SWA (WOODED "PENINSULA" ON W SIDE OF LAKE)

COUNTY: CROWLEY NEAREST TOWN: SUGAR CITY ELEVATION: UNKNOWN

LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: APPROX. 10-15 MIN. TIME(S) OF OBSERVATION: BETWEEN 9:00 am AND 10:30 am (Aves)

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO SAW THE BIRD(S) WITH YOU:
BRANDON PERCIVAL

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY SAW THE BIRD(S):
NONE KNOWN

LIGHT CONDITIONS (QUALITY; DIRECTION RELATIVE TO BIRD(S); POSITION):
BRIGHT SUNSHINE, EXCELLENT CONDITIONS WITH VERY LITTLE WIND

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED:
BAUSCH & LOMB 10X40 CUSTOM BINOCULARS

DISTANCE FROM BIRD (ESTIMATED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED): AS CLOSE AS 25' (APPROX.) AND HIGHER IN TREES.
WAS BIRD PHOTOGRAPHED? NO IF SO, HAVE YOU SUBMITTED PHOTOS? _____

WHO TOOK THE PHOTOGRAPHS? _____

DESCRIBE THE GENERAL AND SPECIFIC HABITAT IN WHICH THE BIRD(S) OCCURRED:
TALL COTTONWOOD TREES WITH DENSE WILLOWS NEARBY, CLOSE TO THE WATER'S EDGE (WITHIN 100 YARDS)

DESCRIBE THE BIRD'S BEHAVIOR (FLYING; FEEDING; HABITS; BEHAVIORS USED IN IDENTIFYING THE SPECIES OR IN SUPPORTING THE IDENTIFICATION): WE HEARD THE BIRD SINGING IN THE TREES. BRANDON THOUGHT HE RECOGNIZED IT, BUT COULDN'T IMMEDIATELY CALL IT. ONCE SEEN, HE REMEMBERED IT FROM A BIRD SEEN AT CITY PARK IN PUEBLO.

DESCRIBE THE BIRD IN DETAIL. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THIS REPORT. INCLUDE THE OVERALL SIZE AND SHAPE AND HOW YOU PLACED THE BIRD IN THE GENERAL GROUP THAT YOU DID. GIVE COMPLETE DETAILS OF PLUMAGE, INCLUDING HEAD, THROAT, UNDERSIDES, NAPE, BACK, WINGS AND TAIL. GIVE PARTICULAR EMPHASIS TO MARKS YOU USED TO IDENTIFY THE BIRD(S). DESCRIBE OTHER DETAILS, SUCH AS COLOR AND SHAPE OF BILL, LEGS, EYE, ETC. THAT WERE IMPORTANT IN MAKING THE IDENTIFICATION. (FILL OUT THIS PORTION EVEN IF PHOTOGRAPHS ARE SUBMITTED; YOU MAY ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS, DRAWINGS, FIELD SKETCHES OR COPY OF FIELD NOTES): SIZE WAS APPROXIMATELY 5". NO OTHER BIRDS WERE CLOSE BY FOR COMPARISON. BILL WAS THIN, LONG AND SHARPLY POINT TYPICAL WARBLER BILL. OVERALL DARK COLORED. HEAD HAD A DISTINCT ALL WHITE SUPERCILUM AND WHITE AURICULAR PATCH. THESE WERE SEPARATED BY A BLACK EYE LINE EXTENDING FROM THE TRIANGULAR SHAPED BLACK CHEEK PATCH. THIS CHEEK PATCH ALSO COVERED THE LORES, AND EXTENDED DOWN THE SIDE OF THE NECK. AT THE BREAST SIDES IT OPENED INTO BOLD BLACK STREAKS THAT WERE VERY DISTINCT ON THE WHITE SIDES AND FLANKS. THE CHIN AND THROAT WERE A BRIGHT CITRUS YELLOW. THERE WAS A WHITE CRESENT ON THE BLACK CHEEK PATCH BELOW EACH EYE. THE BREAST AND ALL OTHER UNDERPARTS WERE A CLEAN WHITE. THE UPPERPARTS WERE UNMARKED GRAY, DARKEST ON THE CROWN. THERE WERE TWO DISTINCT WHITE WING BARS.

THE BIRD WAS VERY INTENT WITH ITS SINGING, AND DID NOT APPEAR TO BE FORAGING. WHEN SINGING IT WOULD MOSTLY SIT TIGHT AND NOT MOVE BETWEEN BURSTS OF SONG IT WOULD WALK ALONG THE BRANCHES, AND WAS FAIRLY EASY TO FOLLOW WITH OUR BINOCULARS. SEEMED TO STAY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TREES FROM 20 TO 25 FEET ABOVE US TO MAYBE 40 FEET HIGH (GUESSED DISTANCES).

DISCUSS SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW YOU ELIMINATED THEM:

THE ONLY SIMILAR BIRD IS GRACE'S WARBLER. THIS SPECIES WAS ELIMINATED BY ITS LACK OF THE BLACK TRIANGULAR CHEEK PATCH, AND WHITE EAR PATCH. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME I HAD HEARD ONE SING. BRANDON WAS MORE FAMILIAR WITH THAT. REGARDLESS, THE SONG OF EACH SPECIES IS DIFFERENT AS WELL.

WHAT IS YOUR PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES?

I HAVE SEEN THIS BIRD ONCE BEFORE IN MINNESOTA. I HAVE SEEN GRACE'S WARBLER IN ARIZONA, AND THE FOLLOWING WEEK IN SW COLORADO.

LIST BOOKS, GUIDES, RECORDINGS OR OTHER SOURCES CONSULTED AND HOW THIS INFLUENCED YOUR IDENTIFICATION (DURING AND AFTER OBSERVATION):

WARBLERS OF THE AMERICAS BY CURSON, QUINN AND BEADLE
NAT'L GEOGRAPHIC

THIS REPORT WAS MADE FROM NOTES MADE DURING _____ OR AFTER X
OBSERVATION, OR LATER FROM MEMORY X

DATE OF WRITTEN REPORT: SEPTEMBER 14, 1997

REPORTING OBSERVER: DREW SMITH

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