

2002-1010

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Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form (Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.) **Each table cell will automatically enlarge as you type!**

CFO-RC FILE X:

RESULTS:

Species:(Common Name) Blackpoll Warbler

(Scientific Name) *Dendroica striata*

Date(s) of occurrence: 5/20/02

Number of birds seen: one

Sex: male

Plumage: Breeding adult

Exact location: Vallecito Reservoir, La Plata County, Colorado

County: La Plata Nearest town: Durango

Elevation: ~7,800 feet

Length of observation: 10 - 15 minutes

Time(s) of observation: 8:30 - 8:45 AM

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: Jim Beatty and Peter Derven.

Other Observers who independently saw the bird(s):

Light Conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s); position: Good - we positioned ourselves with the light to our backs.

Optical equipment used: Swarovski 7x42 binoculars.

Distance from bird(s) (estimated unless otherwise noted): About 7 meters

Was bird(s) photographed? No If so, have you submitted photos?

Who took the photographs?

Describe the general and specific habitat in which the bird(s) occurred:

The bird was in a very small cluster of cottonwoods on the east side of the dam. Mixed conifers surround the reservoir in that area.

Describe the bird's behavior (flying, feeding, habits, behaviors used in identifying the Species or in supporting the identification):

The bird was gleaning insects from trees. Movements were very deliberate.

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 important 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 field notes):

The bird was easily identified as a warbler by its small size, rather small, flat bill, and its feeding habits (as described above). The head had an entirely black cap that extended down to about the height of the eye, to include most of the eye, the nape & all of the forehead. The chin, throat and the auriculars were white, except for 2 black, lateral throat stripes. The lateral throat stripes widened and merged with distinct streaking that extended down the sides of the chest & the sides of the bird. The underparts were white. The back was gray with wide, black streaking. The wings coverts were black with 2 white wing bars on each wing. The primaries were olive. The tail was short. The rump and uppertail were gray. The bill was 2-toned: the upper manible was black, the lower mandible was pale yellow. The legs were a pinkish-orange color.

Describe bird's call or song: No vocalizations were heard.

Discuss similar species and how you eliminated them:

Both Black-throated gray Warbler and Black-and-white Warbler have a black auricular patch with a white supercilium while the Blackpoll has an entirely black cap (that extends down to the eye) with a white auricular patch.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

An earlier Blackpoll Warbler @ Pastorius Reservoir in La Plata Co. this spring (5/7/02, 5/8/02) refreshed my memory regarding field marks. The Blackpoll @ Vallecito was more heavily streaked on the sides of chest, flanks and sides than the Pastorius Reservoir bird. I've also seen male Blackpoll Warblers in breeding plumage in Canada.

List books, guides, recordings or other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation):

This report is from notes made during ☐ or after ☐ observation or later ☐ from memory.
This report was made later from memory.

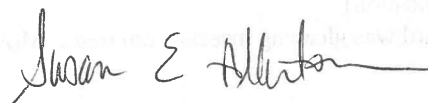
Date of written report: 6/13/02

Reporting observer: Susan E. Allerton

Reporting Observer's Address: 61 Newland Circle

City: Durango State: CO Zip: 81301

Signature:



Send report to: Colorado Birds Record Committee Tony Leukering P.O. Box 157 Arvada, CO 80001