

2003-119

Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form

ACCEPTED

CBRC FILE #: 2003-119

RESULTS: A

Species: (Common Name) Canada Warbler

(Scientific Name) *Wilsona canadensis*

Date(s) of occurrence: 31 Aug 03

Number of birds seen: 1

Sex:

Plumage: Undetermined

Exact location: Chico Basin Ranch, Holmes Grove

County: El Paso

Nearest town: Hanover

Elevation: ~5100'

Length of observation: About 5 minutes

Time(s) of observation: 8:45 am

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: Chris Wood, Brian Gibbons, Tony Leukering

Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): unknown

Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s) and observers position): Cloudy day, even light

Optical equipment used: Minox 8.5 X 42, Nikon D100 + 80-400 VR

Distance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted): Perhaps 12-15 meters at closest

Was (Were) bird(s) photographed? Yes

If so, are you submitting photos? Yes

Who took the photograph(s)? Bill Schmoker

Describe the general and specific habitats in which the bird(s) occurred: Russian olive trees in large deciduous grove surrounded by vast short grass prairie/ semi-desert shrubland tracts (major migrant trap!)

Describe the bird's (birds') behaviors, particularly behaviors that were used in supporting the identification, e.g., flying, feeding, habits: The bird was fidgeting around near the tops of several Russian olives.

DESCRIPTION – Small warbler. Short, pale based pointy bill. Bill only a bit longer than the eye is wide. Dark eye surrounded by crisp, thin white ring. Lower part of eye ring just above bottom part of gray cap. Supraloral pale, dingy yellow. Crown, nape and back uninterrupted medium gray. Throat bright yellow, separated from yellow underparts by smudgy gray breast band. Upper and lower edges of breast band blur into the yellow throat and breast, center of the breast band appears more uniform gray, nearly the color of the upper parts. Wings appear fairly short alongside body, ending near the end of undertail coverts. Tail gray, medium length. Legs pale, perhaps orange-yellow.

Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted: n/a

SIMILAR SPECIES – Uniform gray upperparts/ yellow underparts/ white eye ring/ gray "necklace" fairly unique among NA warblers. Kirtland's Warbler superficially somewhat similar overall pattern, but a larger bird with extensive spotting on the sides and back in all plumages, etc.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?: I've seen one other Canada Warbler at Barr Lake.

List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how these influenced your identification (during and after observation): Sibley Guide to Birds

This report was made from: Photos and notes taken after observation.

Date and time of written report: 21 Jan 03

Reporting observer: William P Schmoker

Signature: 

Reporting observer's address: 3381 Larkspur Dr. Longmont, CO 80503 email: bill@schmoker.org

Photo 31 Aug 03, Chico Basin Ranch

