

SPECIES: Kentucky Warbler | Oporornis formosus
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)

DATE(S): May 2, 1992 TIME OF OBSERVATION: ~ 7:45 am TO ~ 8:00 am

EXACT LOCATION: Southwest corner of Crow Valley Campground - 3 evergreens surrounded by willows

NEAREST TOWN: Briggsdale, Colorado COUNTY: Weld

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD:

Steve Stachowiak, 14846 East Cuspien Place, Aurora, CO 80014, (303) 750-3422

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT: Zeiss 10x40 Binoculars

WEATHER CONDITIONS: 49°F, OVERCAST, calm.

BIRD/SUN ORIENTATION: sky overcast, even lighting all around.

DISTANCE FROM BIRD AND HOW MEASURED: 15-20 yds (estimate)

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1 SEX: Male? PLUMAGE: Breeding

BEHAVIOR AND DEMEANOR: While fishing the bird "popped" up from base of willow tree to a branch about 6 feet off the ground and began "chipping" loudly. After about 5 seconds he dropped down to a live branch on the ground and "hopped" along this branch then flew to some willow thickets nearby. The bird was last seen on the ground at the base of these willows. The willows were in a shallow draw just west of the three evergreens in the southwest corner of the campground.

HEAD & NECK (forehead, crown, auricular & malar regions, median line, etc.): forehead black turning to lighter gray at about the eye, turning to olive green behind the eye. Auricular region was black ^{male!} and shaped like a triangle with one of the points starting at the 6 of the lower mandible. The lower triangle point appeared to become a "hook". Hook behind the eyes.

EYES & LORES (supercilium, eye-ring, eye-stripe, color, etc.): eyes dark; eye ring yellow, starting at lores going over ^{eye} and partially wrapping around eye (like glasses wrap around a man's ears is how it wrapped around this bird's eyes) (see sketch) supercilium wide & yellow.

LOWER & UPPER MANDIBLES (color & shape): Rather long (like a water thrush); darkish.

LEGS & FEET: Pink - easily seen while bird moved about.

UPPERPARTS (nape, back, rump, uppertail coverts, etc.): Nape olive green as was back and rump. The bird did NOT appear as dark as is shown in National Geographic 2nd edition page 372. This book shows a very dark olive green. The auricular patch also does not look right in the back (needs to be more triangular) see sketch.

UNDERPARTS (chin, throat, belly, sides, flanks, crissum, etc.): Chin, throat, belly all rich yellow; sides & flanks slightly dirty yellow.

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RETRICES (inner, middle & outer tail feathers; color, pattern, shape, etc.):

Tail itself seemed somewhat short, same color as back; individual retrices not particularly noticed.

WINGS (color, length, shape, bars, coverts, etc.): Wings medium olive green (same as back & tail); No wing bars present.

VOCALIZATION (call/song, method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight):

Low chipping when "pished" up; chipping continued on & off for short period of time while bird moved about.

HABITAT: first found at base of willow "tree" then later the bird moved to base of willow thicket (car).

ELIMINATION OF SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

Yellow-Throated Warbler - has white wing bars, white behind the auricular patch, black streaking on sides & flanks, and white belly & under-tail coverts. This warbler lacks the "eyeglass wrap around" eye ring & supercillium that the Kentucky Warbler has.

fit:

Grace's Warbler - Also has white wing bars, white belly & sides & under-tail coverts, black streaking on sides. Yellow supercillium does not "wrap" around eye like Kentucky warbler.

Canada Warbler - has full eye-ring, missing wide yellow supercillium extending past eye; back is grayish not olive as a Kentucky has. Canada also has a black "necklace" streaking on its breast and white under-tail coverts which are lacking in Kentucky Warbler.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

Yellow-Throated Warbler - seen in Arkansas (A few)

Grace's Warbler - never seen

Canada Warbler - seen only once at Chatfield State Park (10/31/89)

Kentucky Warbler - Neither of us (Steve & myself) have ever seen this species; we both were pretty sure it was a Kentucky and wrote down some notes until we could get back to the car to look at a book.

BOOKS, ILLUSTRATIONS AND ADVICE CONSULTED THAT INFLUENCED THIS REPORT:

Notes were taken during and immediately after observation because we did not have a book with us during observation. National Geographic Society "Birds of North America" 2nd edition was consulted later.

THIS REPORT WRITTEN FROM NOTES MADE DURING ☒ AFTER ☒ OBSERVATION; ☐ FROM MEMORY

NAME: Joey M Kellner

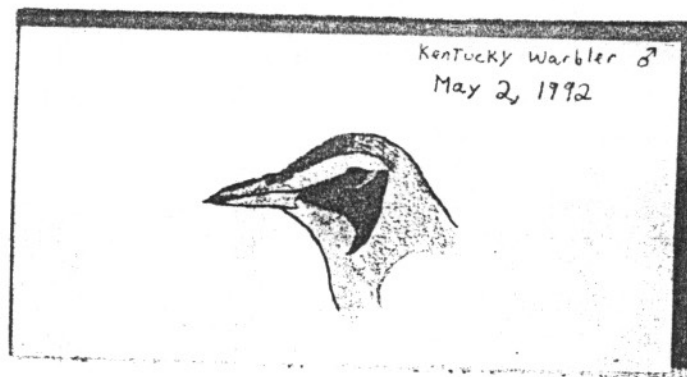
SIGNATURE: Joey M Kellner

DATE: May 4th, 1992

— Sparrow, lark	Crow Valley Campground - 2
— Bunting, lark	Pawnee Grasslands - 1
— Sparrow, savannah	Pawnee Grasslands - 3
— Sparrow, Lincoln	Lower Latham Reservoir - 2
— Sparrow, white-throated	Crow Valley Campground - 6
— Sparrow, white-crowned	Crow Valley Campground - 1 tan race
	Crow Valley Campground - 21
	Pawnee Grasslands - 5
— Longspur, McCown's	Pawnee Grasslands - 7
— Longspur, chestnut-collared	Pawnee Grasslands - 2m
Blackbird, red-winged	Crow Valley Campground - 3
Meadowlark, Western	Crow Valley Campground - 35
	Pawnee Grasslands - 95
Blackbird, yellow-headed	Lower Latham Reservoir - 500
Blackbird, Brewer's	Crow Valley Campground - 22
Grackle, great-tailed	Lower Latham Reservoir - 3m, 1f
Grackle, common	Crow Valley Campground - 3
	Lower Latham Reservoir - 3
	Pawnee Grasslands - 9
Cowbird, brown-headed	Crow Valley Campground - 3
	Lower Latham Reservoir - 8
Siskin, pine	Crow Valley Campground - 3
Goldfinch, American	Crow Valley Campground - 12
Sparrow, house	Pawnee Grasslands - 9

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Total Species = 95

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original color sketch is much better than photocopy.

JH