

Accepted 7-0

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD

UNUSUAL RECORD

IXI

Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species: Kentucky Warbler (Vernacular Name) Oporornis formosus (Scientific Name)Date(s): 7 May 1996Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: prob. ♂ ~~♂~~ ♂ Plumage: adultLocality: woodlot at NE edge of Flagler Reservoir Elevation: 5000 ftNearest town: Flagler, CO County: Kit CarsonTime(s) observed: Observed one at about 9:00 AMDuration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): about 10 seconds

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

none

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

none

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):

Light was behind observer - but bird was in a shady, wet woodlot
So light was a moderate intensityOptical equipment used (e.g. power, types): 10X50 Bush & Lomb binocsDistance, and how measured: 10 ft, estimatedIf photographed, type of equipment and film: —Who else photographed the bird? —

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):

Perched on a low branch, then flew away at a low height, disappearing into vegetation

Describe in detail the bird's relative size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern. Include details of bill, wing and tail shape. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions and illustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observed in the field:

~~Observed~~ - When I observed the bird I almost immediately knew what it was. It was obviously a medium-sized warbler. Upperparts were dark olive with no wingbars or other markings on back, wings, or tail. Underparts were all bright yellow - including throat, sides, chest, belly and undertail. The facial pattern

Description (continued): ^{most of} is what captured my attention. The throat was yellow the forehead and ~~beak~~ crown were very dark. There was a bright yellow line extending above the eye and ^{behind the eye} a dark line extended from the bill through the ^{front of} eye and widening ^{under the eye} to cover the ear area and connect to the olive mantle. The bill was dark. I do not recall ^{noticing} leg color or any other features of the bird. ~~The bright yellow markings around the eye.~~ The unique face pattern. Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, along w/ duration): other features seemed distinct at time of obs:
No vocalizations heard

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:

The bird was in a ~~very~~ small (about 3 acres) wet woodlot at the base of the dam which forms the flagler reservoir. ~~The woodlot was mainly~~ The woodlot was mainly of the dam which forms the flagler reservoir. ~~The woodlot was mainly~~ large cottonwoods and many small saplings & shrubs. The bird was perched on a low branch (about 4 ft ~~and flew~~ ~~about 30 ft~~ from the woodlot edge and flew ~~clapper~~ into the wood.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?
The face pattern eliminates most other warblers. ~~Some~~ Somewhat similar Canada Warbler eliminated by lack of any markings on yellow underparts. Lack of wingbars and any streaking also eliminates most other warblers.

Wilson's eliminated by face pattern & size. Hooded eliminated by face pattern.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? This was my first experience w/ Kentucky Warbler !! I have had numerous experiences w/ Canada Warbler and most other wood warblers. ~~including Wilson's, Hooded, Grace's, etc.~~ including Wilson's, Hooded, Grace's, etc.

Also observed Virginia's, Wilson's, ~~Nashville~~ Nashville Warblers, Am. Redstart & Northern Waterthrush in Woodlot. List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

- a) at time of observation: none - Kentucky Warbler being one of the few eastern warblers I had not yet observed, I had spent much time studying the field marks in various guides prior to this observation.
b) after observation: National Geographic Birds of North America guide - did not really influence my identification other than a double check of my ID.

This report was written from reports made during _____, after observation X from memory X
(But since this was a lifer & such a surprise my memory is p')

Date and time report was written: 23 Jan 1997! - Getting lax about these reports - riskiest

Reporting observer: Bonnie E. Stout Signature: Bonnie E. Stout

Address: 8750 E. Mitchell Rd, Petoskey, MI 49770

e-mail: stout@freeway.net

Return to:
Bill Prather
C.F.O. Official Records Committee
13810 WCR 1
Longmont, Colorado 80504