

## COLORADO RARE BIRD REPORT

ACCEPT 7-0  
led 1/20/00 wpl

## KENTUCKY WARBLER

Oporomis formosusLocation: Lake Henry grove; Crowley County; near Ordway, ColoradoDate: May 7, 1999Setting:

We were on a "pre-trip" for a CFO field trip. Approximately 7 birders saw this bird, including Rachel Kolokoff, Ric Olsen, David Quesenberry, BB Hahn, Virginia Maynard, Brandon Percival and myself. We saw the bird at 8:30 a.m. for about 10 minutes. The bird initially was very secretive and stayed to a tight tamarisk clump. It stayed low in the clump and was very difficult to see. Eventually it came out in the open and hopped along the bare dirt near the clump, feeding and acting much like a thrush. The morning was sunny and the views were wonderful. I observed the bird from about 25 feet away with B&L 10x40 binoculars

Description:

The bird was a breeding-plumaged adult. There was discussion as to whether it was a male or female (based on the amount black and gray on the crown) but the sex of the bird was not clear. It was a small, dark warbler, about 5" long, but bright yellow below. It had a short, dark olive tail. The bill was slim, pointed and blackish. The legs were long and bright pink. It was uniform, dark olive above and lacked wingbars or other markings on the upperparts. The forehead and forecrown were blackish, blending gradually at the hind-crown into an olive nape. The face was black with a bright yellow spectacle that was pointed behind the black eye. The undersides were bright, uniform yellow.

Similar Species:

Other warblers that are olive above and yellow below include the other Oporomis species which show gray hoods and lack the yellow spectacle. Canada Warbler has a narrow yellow eyering and lores and shows a necklace of black streaks. Wilson's and Hooded warblers lack the yellow spectacles and have yellow, not black, foreheads.

Experience with Species:

I have seen many Kentucky Warblers, most recently in 1993 in Kentucky. I have three previous Kentucky Warbler in Colorado.

This report was prepared from notes made during observation.

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