

2002-204

ACCEPTED

Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form
(Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.)

CBRC FILE #: 2002-204

RESULTS:

Species: (Common Name): **Kentucky Warbler**

(Scientific Name): *Oporornis formosus*

Date(s) of occurrence: **May 7, 2002**

Number of birds seen: **1**

Sex: **male**

Plumage: **alternate**

Exact location: **Chatfield State Park, one half mile south of Kingfisher Bridge on the east side of the South Platte River**

County: **Douglas**

Nearest town:

Elevation:

Length of observation: **15 minutes, off and on**

Time(s) of observation: **4:30 PM to 4:45 PM**

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: **Andrew Spencer, Pearl Jordan**

Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): **bird was found by Glenn Walbeck**

Light conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s) and observers position): **overcast to partly cloudy; mostly we had the sun at our backs**

Optical equipment used: **Pentax binoculars**

Distance to bird(s) (estimated, unless otherwise noted): **on average, 30 feet**

Was (Were) bird(s) photographed? **Yes**

If so, are you submitting photos? **Yes**

Who took the photograph(s)? **Andrew Spencer**

Describe the general and specific habitats in which the bird(s) occurred: **heavy brush just east of the path along the stream. The bird stayed low and was difficult to observe.**

Describe the bird's (birds') behaviors, particularly behaviors that were used in supporting the identification, e.g., flying, feeding, habits: **The bird was skulking along the ground and in the low brush, and we originally located it by hearing faint noises it was making in the leaf litter, presumably while foraging.**

DESCRIPTION – **The bird was somewhat chunky for a warbler. It was bright yellow on the underparts, from bill all the way to undertail coverts, and it was dull greenish above, without wingbars or other significant markings save for the head, which sported a black forehead and auriculars, broken up by conspicuous bright yellow spectacles, the same color as the underparts.**

Describe the bird's (birds') call(s) and/or song(s), if noted: **I do not recall that the bird vocalized at all.**

SIMILAR SPECIES – **Really, there was no ID problem here. Other Oporornis warblers would have had much more limited yellow below, and they would not have shown prominent yellow spectacles. Male Hooded Warbler has much more extensive black surrounding an entirely yellow face. Yellow-throated Vireo would have yellow spectacles and breast, but white wingbars and belly, without black on the head, and it would probably not have skulked so low.**

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? **I had seen Kentucky Warblers precisely twice before, once in Kansas and once in Arkansas. I had relatively greater experience with most of the similar species listed above.**

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

This report was made from (check one) ☐ notes made during observation ☐ notes made after observation ☒ later from memory.

Date and time of written report: **March 19, 2003**

Reporting observer: **Nathan Pieplow**

Signature:

Reporting observer's address: **4745-B White Rock Circle**

City: **Boulder**

State: **CO**

Zip: **80301**

Send report to:
Colorado Bird Records Committee
Tony Leukering
PO Box 660
Brighton, CO 80601

