

Species: CAPE MAY WARBLER (Vernacular Name) Dendroica tigrina (Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): 11-20-74 Time Bird Seen: 1320 to 1330

Locality: WATER TON

Nearest Town: LITTLE TON

County: Douglas

*because it was across the S. Platte river.*

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

Optical Equipment: binoculars Messoldt 16x56

If photographed, type of equipment used:

Light Conditions: in and out of a low winter sun

Distance from bird (how measured): estimated 75 ft

Number of Birds Seen: one Sex: F Plumage: Immature

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

*feeding on the watercress on the bank of river, picking up insects from it, would move a few inches, pick up more, walk and/or flit a few inches, etc.*

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

*It appeared a bit smaller than an audubon's warbler, about the same shape though. Plumage; I first noticed the very streaked breast, more than just the side streaking of immature myrtle and audubon's warblers that I have seen and handled. Then I got a look at the yellow rump-patch, a tinge of olive. wing bars were not prominent. I studied the dark eye-line quite a bit because I know that myrtle and audubon's warblers do not have that dark eyeline on a grayish face. I did not observe the cheek patch as such. Perhaps because I was studying the eyeline, I didn't observe the background except that it was a light grayish. The back was a dull olive green, plain. again, I was concentrating on the fact that the sides and breast were so streaked, the background seemed a light gray, especially the belly.*

(OVER)

Describe the bird's song or call, if heard, including method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight, etc:

None heard :

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

feeding on watercress on river bank.

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

It had more streaking on breast and down on to belly than either myrtle or audubon's warblers.  
no yellow side patches as on myrtle or audubon warblers.

Pine warbler doesn't have yellow rump.

Palm warbler is brown and wags tail so that doesn't fit this bird.

It did not have the broad white tail band nor the eye ring of the immature magnolia warbler.

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

I am very familiar with myrtle and audubon's warblers, both observing and banding.

I have seen the Cape May warbler in the east with myrtle warblers.

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?

Birds of N. America, Chan Robbins, et al  
Thomas S. Roberts, of ~~Florida~~ Key To Birds of Minnesota  
Edward Howe Forbush Vol # 3 (1929)  
Birds of Canada, W. Earl Godfrey  
Rogers T. Peterson Field guide, Eastern birds  
Warblers of N. Am., Grinnon, Sprunt -  
they assured my  
me that my  
observations  
as described  
above were  
of an  
immature  
female  
Cape May  
warbler.  
This report was written from notes made during 1/3 after 1/3 observation; from memory 1/3

PRINT NAME: MILDRED O. SNYDER SIGNATURE: Mildred O. Snyder DATE: 11/29/74  
Street Address: 161 Del Mar Circle Town and State: Aurora, Colo ZIP: 80011

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 1450 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110

accepted JR 1/13/75

Cape May Warbler, Nov. 23, 1974

I saw this bird in the same place Mildred Snyder mentions, below the bridge at Waterton feeding in the green "water cress" covered south slope of the South Platte River.

I originally passed it off as an aberrant Audubon/Myrtle until learning of Mildred's observation. The things I remember about the bird:

Heavy streaking on the breast;  
White throat;  
wing bar(s) (I don't remember how many)  
Arump which did not show color when the bird was feeding on the ground, but finally appeared olive-yellow (not yellow like a Yellow-rumped) when the bird flew into the brush.

I did not observe the dark eyeline/

These notes are made a month and a half after the observation.

*Hugh Kingery*  
Hugh Kingery