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COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORMNEW STATE RECORD ☐ UNUSUAL RECORD ☒ A

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

Species: Cape May Warbler | Dendroica tigrina  
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)Date(s): 19 May 1977Number of birds seen: One Sex: male Plumage: breedingLocality: Bluebell Canyon Elevation: about 5500 ft.Nearest town: In Boulder County: BoulderTime(s) observed: at 0745Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.) About 2 minutes, off and on

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 that I know of for sure.

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

Excellent. I maneuvered so that the sun came in from behind me on the bird.Optical equipment used (e.g., power, types): 10 X 50 binoculars.Distance, and how measured: Minimum estimated distance-20 ft.

If 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):

Typical Dendroica-feeding quickly and "nervously" among foliage and twigs of medium-sized trees and tall bushes in the canyon. Stopped regularly to sing.

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:

Typical Dendroica in size and shape. Crown black. Face and underparts bright yellow. Roundish chestnut ear patch. Black streaks on breast and sides. Undertail coverts white. Back olive with darker (blackish or brownish) streaks. Wings largely black with a large white patch. Rump yellowish.



Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):

It regularly sang from a perch while momentarily pausing in its foraging. The details of the song are not recorded in my field notes, but it was quite high, thin and strident.

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

Deciduous trees and tall shrubbery in a foothills canyon.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?

No other warbler closely resembles it. Magnolia and Townsend's are the only ones that even vaguely resemble it: Magnolia has white tail spots, black back, gray crown, black and white face, Townsend's has black throat, black cheeks, wingbars instead of wing patch. (Above discussion applies only to breeding-plumaged males).

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

I have seen Cape May Warbler in Colorado several times (one of which was an adult male), also in Michigan. I have seen the other warblers mentioned above many times in Colorado and elsewhere, in all plumages.

List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification: Absolutely none needed.

a) at time of observation:

b) after observation:

This report was written from notes made during X, after        observation; from memory       .

Date and time report was written: 29 January 1978

Reporting observer: Robert Andrews

Signature: Robert Andrews

Address: 1390 So. Ivy Way, Denver, Colorado 80224

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below.

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