

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD UNUSUAL RECORD

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

Species: Cape May Warbler
(Vernacular Name)Dendroica tigrina

(Scientific Name)

Date(s): November 24, 1991Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: Female Plumage: immatureLocality: Fountain Creek Park, El Paso Elevation: 5,600'Nearest town: Fountain, Colorado County: El PasoTime(s) observed: 1Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): approximately 3-4 minutes

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

NONEOther observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers)
Monday November 25th Ann Higgins, Jo and Chuck Romero, George Maentz, Bob JoyceLight conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light):
The bird was in the snow and the sun was on it.Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): POLAROID 8x42Distance, and how measured: estimate 10'If photographed, type of equipment and film: 1/4Who else photographed the bird? Ann Higgins November 25, 1991Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying):
When I first saw this bird it was standing in the snow and I knew I had never seen it before. It looked as if it had just finished bathing and was busily shaking itself and preening its feathers.

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 observe in the field:

The very first thing I noticed about this bird was its color - a bright olive green. Then I saw the small sharp pointed black bill and the suffusion of yellow on the side of the neck (perhaps a little on the auriculars). Quickly I started to make a drawing and notes. (Please see page 3 of this report.) The bird flew a short distance and I saw yellow on the rump. It continued to preen and then flew about 40' away from me and I had a good look at the yellow areas on the rump, while it was flying.

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Description (continued):

The sharp short black bill certainly made me think "warbler". When the bird flew away from me I did not notice any white in the tail feathers but thought I had when it was moving about in the short grassy area at the base of a tree (this a tree free of leaves).

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery, (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): Before seeing the bird I spent some time trying to locate a very high pitched "ssss" which I didn't recognize - perhaps it was this bird.

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird: This bird was found, this day, adjacent to a marshy area which had some free flowing water in the sun.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species? With the yellow rump the bird to eliminate first was Yellow-rumped Warbler. This bird did not have any yellow on its sides. The yellow on the rump was not as bright nor as prominent as a yellow-rumped. The back of this bird was definitely greenish as was the head.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species? I am familiar with both Audubon's and Myrtle Warblers in full plumages but have only seen Cape May Warblers in the spring.

List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

a) at time of observation: NONE

National Geographic 2nd Editions; Ryle, Peter, Howell, Yunick, DeSante, Identification Guide to

b) after observation: North American Passerines; Kaufman, Kenn; Advanced Birding McCaskie, Guy; Lecture on Fall Warblers ABA Convention Ft Collins June 1990

This report was written from reports made during X, after observation _____ from memory
Date and time report was written: This report Jan 4, 1991 from drawings and written record made Nov 24, 1991

Reporting observer: Toni BREVILLIER Signature: Toni Brevillier record made Nov 24, 1991

Address: 2616 Ashgrove St Colorado Springs Co 80906

All reports will be maintained permanently at the address below:

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DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CITY PARK
DENVER, CO 80205

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SIGHT RECORD

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CAPE MAY WARBLER
NOVEMBER 24, 1991

070 Light-colored form Cape May Warbler November 1991

Toni Brevillier

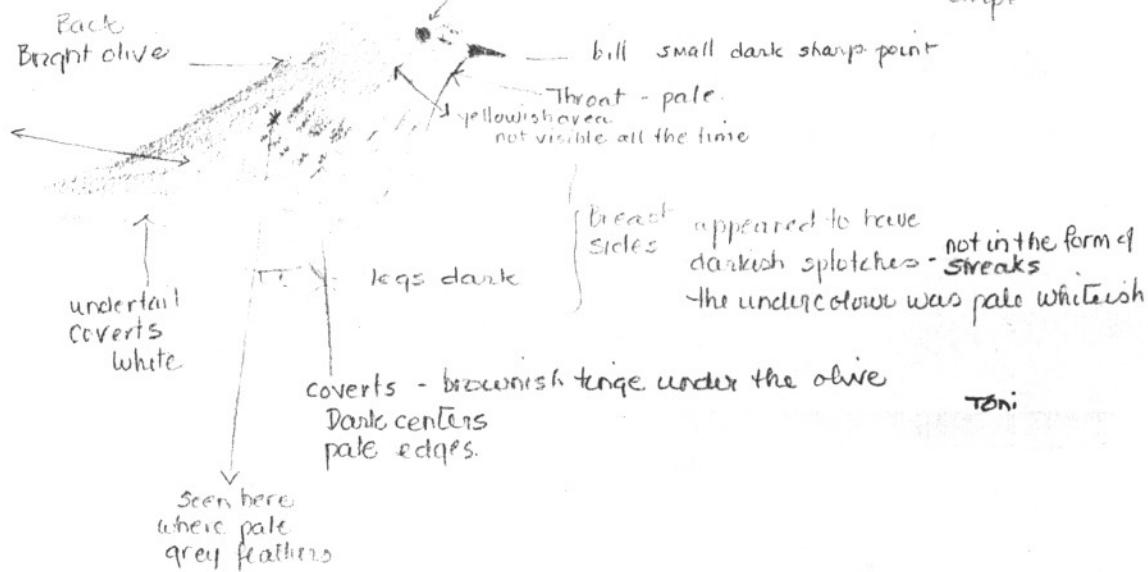
(There was perhaps very faint streaking
) but the bird appeared very damp and
was busy preening, and fluffing up
feathers, shaking them

gape above the eye but not a definitive supercilium

Eye dark - pale eye ring darkish basal
stripe

the edges of
tertials and
secondaries
appeared to have
edges that were
pale olive

TAIL
Darkish



Toni Brevillier
November 24, 1991

Toni

Note: This drawing and notations made the evening of November 24, 1991
from notes made in the field and before consulting any books

A photograph(s) of this bird will be sent by Ann Higgins