

52-94-63

April 28, 1994
Thomas C. Pool
Christine Consaul
2024 Goldenvue Drive
Golden, CO 80204
303-279-3247

Warren Finch
455 Dover Street
Lakewood, CO 80226

Accepted

28-13

Dear Warren:

Thank you very much for the rare bird report. We appreciate the opportunity to take part in the Colorado program.

As a mining engineer and very novice birdwatcher, however, I don't have a clue about proper description or terminology. I hope that the following narrative will still be of some benefit.

My wife, Christine, called me at work on the morning of November 12, 1993 to report a new bird at one of our peanut butter/suet feeders. The feeder is located in our backyard, some 20 feet from the windows, in a large cottonwood tree. Christine said she had identified our visitor, from the Peterson field guide, as a Cape May warbler.

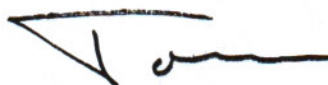
The warbler appeared almost daily throughout the winter until about April 10, 1994, after which we have not seen it. It usually appeared at feeder in mid morning and stayed for an hour or two before leaving. Sometimes it would also drop by in the afternoon. The most notable feature of its behavior was its aggressiveness towards other birds at the feeder. It would drive off most smaller birds such as finches, chickadees and juncos by diving at them. With larger birds such as woodpeckers and jays, however, it would wait and watch them from a nearby branch. I cannot recall that it fed on anything but the peanut butter/suet mixture.

Occasionally, I would take a close look with the binoculars to check it again with the field guide to confirm its identification and to see if it was the same bird. Everything seemed to match up very well with the key elements being the streaked breast, yellow "collar", white wing bar, and brown patch on the side of the head. Most of these features show up reasonably well on the enclosed photos. (I've got to get either a better camera or some lessons in photography!)

That's the best I can do for now; I hope it will suffice. Now that we understand the process better, we'll try to be more rigorous in the future.

Thanks for the DFO membership form; we'll be joining.

Sincerely,





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photo by Thomas C. Lee

Cape May Warbler

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