

COLORADO BIRD ATLAS
VERIFICATION FORM

52-91-68

A

Species: Prairie Warbler Dendroica discolor
(Common Name) (Scientific)

For Atlas Office Use	Topo Map--Name
BC	--Number Lat Long # Cat/long
Tech Cm	--Sector SE SW CE CW NE NW
AtI Off	

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, for research projects like the Atlas, a written description for unusual species is essential. The final atlas project must have a solid basis, and for unusual records, we require written documentation. By providing the verifying written description you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method. The Atlas Technical Committee will review the report and approve it for inclusion in the Atlas database.

This form will perpetuate your record for examination by others in the future. The Atlas requires this of every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Date(s): Sept 25, 91 Time seen 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM

Locality Clifton Marsh Wildlife Area

Nearest town & county Grand Jct. Mesa

Number seen	Gender	Ages	Plumage	Photos
1	Males	Adults	Breeding	Yes/No <u>No</u>
	Females	Juv/Imm	Eclipse	Avail.
	Imm/O	2/3 yr	Winter	Encl
	Unk	Unk	Other	

Distance from bird(s) 30' Light conditions very good Notes made: At time of sighting X

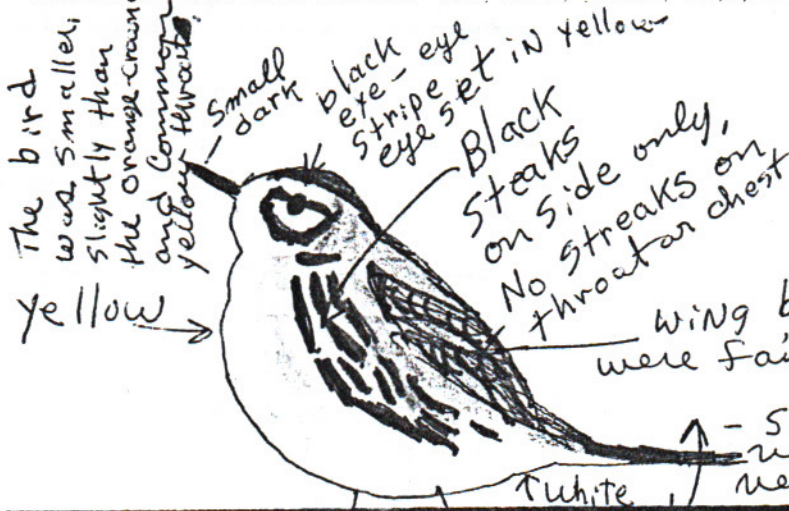
Optical Equip 8 by 30 Swarovski After observation from memory

Describe Habitat Riparian, Colo R. - Old oxbow - plant species - tamarisk, cottonwood, russian olive, cattail and sedge. The bird was in the lower part of a dying tamarisk most of the time. The tamarisk was standing in a little water with sedge growing at the base. The bird never was more than a few (4 or 5 ft) above the ground.

Atlas Breeding Code Overall behavior. Did it interact with any other birds? Describe.

The prairie warbler was with two orange-crowned warblers, two song sparrows and one common yellow-throat. The only interaction I noticed was between the orange-crowned warbler and the prairie. The orange-crowned warbler chased the prairie on a couple occasions. The prairie would dive back down into the brush and out of sight.

Describe all field marks observed: size, color, pattern, shape, bill, etc. Describe any unique features this bird had.



The bird was not an imma bird. I have seen many males and females in Florida recently and the bird was either a male losing breeding plumage or a female still in breeding plumage. The back was of the green and looked a lot like the orange-crown back.

What song or sounds did it make? I heard chips but they could have belonged to either the orange-crowned or common yellow-throat.

Field marks not seen. Why not?

I did not really notice much white in the tail. I did not have the bird in my binocs when it flew either.

Variation from expected field marks

The bird looked just like the ones I saw in Florida. I did not see Chestnut spots on the back which are

List similar species. Why and how did you eliminate them?

Palm Warbler - not near so much yellow and much more extensive streaking however the streaking is not bold as it is with the prairie.
Pine-warbler duller, not so yellow, streaking duller, white bold wing bars, does not tail bob. Also the pine has tail spots.
Magnolia warbler - eye sets in black - streaks on chest - no tail bob.
Townsend-eye sets in black - no tail bob.

What is your experience with this or similar birds? I saw this warbler in Florida 12/25/88 and again 12/26/88. Then last Summer, Aug 4, 91, we saw several birds in the keys. The only North American warblers I don't have experience with is Kirtlands and Tropical Parula assume Bachmans is extinct.

Name (print)

Coen Dexter

Signature

Coen Dexter

Street address, city & zip

3227 D Rd

Telephone

Clifton, CO

81520

303-434-6137

Corroborating observers not reporting separately (but encourage them to provide a report):

Name Eva Sanders may have seen the bird the next day. I don't have his address or phone numbers.