

Species: BAY-BREASTED WARBLER

Dendroica castanea

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): October 27, 1974

Time Bird Seen: _____ to _____

Locality: Prewitt Reservoir

Nearest Town: Brush

County: Washington

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

Optical Equipment: 7 X 50 binoculars and 15-60X B&L Zoom telescope

If photographed, type of equipment used: _____

Light Conditions: Sunny, with sun coming from behind observer

Distance from bird (how measured): A minimum estimated 25 feet

Number of Birds Seen: One Sex: Male Plumage: Nonbreeding

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

The bird was quite active, moving around in the ~~low~~ outer twigs and branches of tall trees (mostly cottonwoods), mostly 30 or more feet off the ground, frequently coming out into the open but rarely staying in any one spot for more than a few moments.

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:

The bird had a typical passerine shape and was fairly thin, with a tail of moderate length and width, slightly forked, with wings of average or moderate proportions and a bill that was fairly short, thin and sharply-pointed. The crown, nape, back, rump and uppertail coverts were brown with dark streaking, mostly in the back. The wings were brownish with two conspicuous white wingbars. The face was pale brownish. There was a whitish-buffy superciliary line. The throat, breast, sides and flanks, belly and undertail coverts were buffy-yellow, with a few obscure brownish or grayish streaks on the sides, but the underparts otherwise unmarked. The sides were rusty. The uppertail surface was blackish-brown, the undertail surface mostly white with some black along the edges. Eyes black. Bill black. Leg color not noted satisfactorily.

(OVER)

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

No calls heard.

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

The bird was seen in a narrow woodland of cottonwoods, bounded by the lake's dam on one side and agricultural fields to the north.

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

The Blackpoll Warbler was eliminated due to the considerable buffy color in the underparts, especially on the undertail coverts, the lack of significant streaking on the underparts and the presence of rusty color on the sides.

Audubon's and Myrtle Warblers eliminated due to lack of strong yellow rump patch.

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

I have seen this species twice, both times in nonbreeding plumage and both times males, on August 28, 1970 at Waupun, Wisconsin and August 29, 1970 at Manchester, Iowa.

I have seen the Blackpoll Warbler on a number of occasions, both in Colorado and in the East. I have seen spring males and females and individuals in fall or nonbreeding plumages (including one such bird in Colorado, on September 11, 1971 at Horsecreek Res.).

I have seen numerous Audubon's and Myrtle Warblers in nonbreeding plumage.

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

The Paterson (both east and west) field guides, the Robbins field guide and Birds of America, edited by T. Gilbert Pearson were consulted during and after the observation.

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

PRINT NAME: Robert Andrews SIGNATURE: Robert Andrews DATE: Nov. 27, 1971
Street Address: 1390 So. Ivy Way Town and State: Denver, Colorado ZIP: 80222

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 4450 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110