

APPENDIX II

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS
FOR
THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' RECORDS

Species: Bay-breasted Warbler ; Dendroica castanea
(Vernacular name) (Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students -- those studying occurrences 50 years from now -- must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Dates (s): 21 May 1988 Time Bird Seen: 12:30pm to for ~ 10 sec

Locality: Ft. Lyons Military Cemetery
Ft. Lyons, Colo.
Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Nikon 9x30 binos.

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: none.

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ♂ Plumage: breeding

Light conditions: overcast; very windy.

Distance from bird, and how measured: ~ 50 ft., estimated

Describe the bird's overall behavior:
Flew to juniper. Fed along branches near bottom of tree about 10 feet high.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:
Park-like area of a cemetery

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):
none

APPENDIX II Continued

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough). Describe what you actually saw in the field. *Very small warbler, about 4 1/2" long. Overall very dark warbler with tan belly and undertail band buff spot on side of neck. Broad brown flanks & head. Dark back with two white wing bars.*

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

Occ. gave a faint chip note.

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Combination of small size, chestnut flanks, buff spot on sides of neck are unmistakable.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

I've seen ♂ Bay-br. Warblers on several occ. in migration in the eastern - U.S.

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

Name (print) : MARK JANOS

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Signature: Mark Janos

Return Form To:

CFO Records Committee
c/o Curator--Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205