

CFO-RC FILE # _____
RESULTS: _____

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM
(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPHS, DRAWINGS AND
ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NECESSARY)

ACCEPT 7-0
Rec'd 1/99 wpl
(1 photo)

SPECIES:

Pine Warbler Dendroica pinus
(Common Name) (Scientific Name)

DATE(S) OF OBSERVATION: December 19-25, 1998; January 7-9, 12 & 14, 1999.

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1 SEX: Male PLUMAGE: Adult

EXACT LOCATION:

5112 Greenview Ct., Fort Collins, CO 80525

COUNTY: Larimer NEAREST TOWN: Fort Collins ELEVATION: 5,000

LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: Various, up to several minutes

TIME(S) OF OBSERVATION: Throughout daylight hours, beginning shortly after sunrise and
ending shortly before sunset.

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO SAW THE BIRD(S) WITH YOU:

Miriah Knight

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY SAW THE BIRD(S):

Bill Lisowsky

Noreen Sterkel

Joe LaFleur

Richard Stevens

Donna Fortney

LIGHT CONDITIONS (QUALITY; DIRECTION RELATIVE TO BIRD(S); POSITION):
Varied, from twilight to bright sunlight.

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED:

Unaided and with Binocular

DISTANCE FROM BIRD (ESTIMATED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED):

Nearest observation at a distance of 2 feet, most observations at a distance of 20 to 30 feet

WAS BIRD PHOTOGRAPHED? Yes

IF SO, HAVE YOU SUBMITTED PHOTOS? Yes

WHO TOOK THE PHOTOGRAPHS? Brian Colon

DESCRIBE THE GENERAL AND SPECIFIC HABITAT IN WHICH THE BIRD(S)
OCCURRED:

Suburban backyard. The area is wooded primarily with conifers (Spruce, Juniper and Pine) but the immediate vicinity also contains a variety of deciduous trees (Purple Ash, Russian Olive, Oak, Crab, Honey Locust) and shrubs (Nanking Cherry, Viburnum, Cotoneaster, et al.). The backyard contains a pond, both tube and platform feeders, heated bird bath and a deck. There is a creek about 200 feet east of the property.

DESCRIBE THE BIRD'S BEHAVIOR (FLYING; FEEDING; HABITS; BEHAVIORS USED IN IDENTIFYING THE SPECIES OR IN SUPPORTING THE IDENTIFICATION):

The behavior of the bird has primarily been moving to the large tube feeder, remaining there briefly, then returning to cover, usually under the deck or to the Russian Olives behind our lot. Like most warblers, it is active, and does not remain perched in one location for any considerable length of time.

DESCRIBE THE BIRD IN DETAIL. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THIS REPORT. INCLUDE THE OVERALL SIZE AND SHAPE AND HOW YOU PLACED THE BIRD IN THE GENERAL GROUP THAT YOU DID. GIVE COMPLETE DETAILS OF PLUMAGE, INCLUDING HEAD, THROAT, UNDERSIDES, NAPE, BACK, WINGS AND TAIL. GIVE PARTICULAR EMPHASIS TO MARKS YOU USED TO IDENTIFY THE BIRD(S). DESCRIBE OTHER DETAILS, SUCH AS COLOR AND SHAPE OF BILL, LEGS, EYE, ETC. THAT WERE IMPORTANT IN MAKING THE IDENTIFICATION. (FILL OUT THIS PORTION EVEN IF PHOTOGRAPHS ARE SUBMITTED; YOU MAY ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS, DRAWINGS, FIELD SKETCHES OR COPY OF FIELD NOTES):

The bird's size, overall shape, the narrow pointed bill, manner of perching (i.e. more horizontally than finches) and strong yellow coloring indicated that the individual was a warbler. It was initially incorrectly identified from fleeting observations as a Yellow-rumped warbler or Yellow warbler. Closer observation at greater length led to noting the following characteristics:

The head, nape and back are olive without streaking. The throat and breast are bright yellow with faint streaking on the side of the breast. The belly and undertail coverts are white. The bill is narrow, black and pointed, but somewhat larger than most warblers. The wings are darker olive with two white wing bars. The tail is also darker olive and notched. The eye is dark with an incomplete yellow eye ring and a faint yellow stripe at the top of the eye. The characteristics that were key to making this identification were the throat and breast, the wing bars, the eye ring and eye stripe. The size of the bill and lack of streaking on the back were also indicative.

DESCRIBE BIRD'S CALL OR SONG:

I have not heard the bird call or sing.

DISCUSS SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW YOU ELIMINATED THEM:

Most olive backed warblers such as Nashville, Connecticut, Mourning, MacGillivray's, Yellow, Palm, Orange-crowned, Tennessee, Common Yellowthroat, Wilson's, Hooded, Worm-eating and Kentucky lack white wing bars. Of those that do, the female Yellow-rumped lacks the yellow breast and is much more strongly streaked. It also has a yellow crown patch and a yellow rump. Townsend's has much stronger black streaking on the sides of the breast, streaks on the back and a distinctive yellow face pattern with a dark cheek patch. The Black-throated green warbler lacks a yellow breast and has strong black throat markings and some streaking on the back. The Olive warbler does not have streaking on the sides of the breast and has a dark cheek patch. The Blue-winged warbler has dark gay wings, a yellow belly and head, yellowish-olive rump and black eye-stripe through the center of the eye.

WHAT IS YOUR PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES?

I lived in Michigan until 1995 and actively birded for ten years prior to moving to Colorado. I was familiar with most eastern warbler species, primarily through field trips to Point Pelee National Park in Ontario, Canada and various locations throughout the Michigan. This is the first time that I have identified this species.

LIST BOOKS, GUIDES, RECORDINGS OR OTHER SOURCES CONSULTED AND HOW THIS INFLUENCED YOUR IDENTIFICATION (DURING AND AFTER OBSERVATION):

"Western Birds" by Roger Tory Peterson

"Field Guide to the Birds of North America" National Geographic

"Colorado Birds" by Robert Andrews and Robert Righter

Both field guides helped identify this species by indicating key field marks and enabled me to eliminate most warbler species once I had observed and noted the diagnostic characteristics.

"Colorado Birds" caused me to double check my observations by indicating that there were only 11 records of this species in Colorado.

THIS REPORT WAS MADE FROM NOTES MADE DURING OBSERVATION.

DATE OF WRITTEN REPORT: January 14, 1999

REPORTING OBSERVER: Brian T. Colon

SIGNATURE: 

OBSERVER ADDRESS:

5112 Greenview Ct.

Fort Collins, CO 80525

SEND REPORT TO:

COLORADO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

c/o BILL LISOWSKY

2919 SILVERPLUME DR.

FT. COLLINS, CO 80526

PINE WARBLER
FT COLLINS, CO

BRIAN COLON
12/98 - 1/99

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