

## APPENDIX II

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

A

Species: Prothonotary Warbler; Prothonotaria citrea  
(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): 11/6/82 Time Bird Seen: 11<sup>00</sup> A.M. to \_\_\_\_\_Locality: along stream entrance into Stratton Reservoir  
Colorado Springs, El Paso, Colorado  
Nearest town, county and state:Optical equipment: Nikon 9x30 roof prism binoculars

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ♀ Plumage: BreedingLight conditions: excellent - clear - bird in direct sunlightDistance from bird, and how measured: ~ 20' closest - estimateDescribe the bird's overall behavior: worked willow and ash trees mostly on middle + upper branches toward center of tree, rested in interior of tree + fed amongst leaves on the ground along bank of stream where it was quite open  
Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:Seen along stream which consisted of Willow and Ash - cattail marsh nearby very close to duck feeding station

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

John A Maynard 1515 Cheyenne Blvd Colorado Springs, CO 80906

# 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. My first look was of intense yellow & my first thought was Blue winged warbler. My first look with binoculars showed no wing bars. The next thing that I noticed was the contrast of wings, blue gray to belly, head & back. The next observation was of an olive green on top of the head. After then consulting my field guide I looked for and saw <sup>hooded</sup> white in aft belly region to tail coverts. My brother & I then looked for a long bill which was evident. The over all intensity of the yellow contrasting with blue gray wings & back and the ~~very~~ pronounced white under tail coverts was unmistakable with any other species.

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

~~Heard~~ No chips or calls heard.

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Blue winged Warbler - No wing bars	Hooded warbler - yellow under tail coverts + yellow eye stripe
S. Wilson's Warbler - wing color not correct head too green, yellow under tail coverts	Nashville, TN - yellow under tail coverts + white eye ring
Yellow warbler - wing color not correct	
<del>Nashville warbler</del> yellow under tail coverts	

Prior experience with this and similar species:

I have seen Fl. Prothonotary Warblers in Maryland & Virginia in Cypress swamps  
I have observed closely nesting Wilson's warblers for 2 summers in Willow shrub in interior Alaska  
& I have seen many in Colorado Springs mostly in Spring

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

Name (print) : William R Maynard

Mailing address: 372 Blue Windsor Ln, Colo Spgs CO 80906

Signature: William R Maynard

Return Form To:

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



52-82-56

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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): Nov 6, 1982 Time Bird Seen: 11:00 am to 11:20 am approx.Locality: Myron Stratton Reservoir - SW of Lake Ave & Springmeadow Dr.  
Colorado Springs El Paso Colorado  
Nearest town, county and state:Optical equipment: Bushnell 8X30 roof prism

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: F Plumage: \_\_\_\_\_Light conditions: Excellent; direct sunlightDistance from bird, and how measured: 20 ft at closest estimateDescribe the bird's overall behavior: Bird was feeding in lower to middle part of trees especially near trunk. Flew from tree to tree but stayed in general area of approx 50 sq. yards.Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird: Swampy area where stream enters reservoir. Running water with pools. Cottonwoods and some brushy understory

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

Bill Maynard 372 Blue Windsor Lane Colo Spgs CO 80906

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. Bird was  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches, warbler size and shape. Bright yellow head with transition to olive green on back. Wings were distinct gray without any bars. White was prominent under tail. Black eye, no eye ring or stripe. Bill was longer and thicker than typical warbler.

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.: None heard

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

Blue winged warbler - bird observed had white under tail and did not have wing bars

Wilson's Warbler - prominent white under tail, distinct color break between wings and body, brightness of yellow coloring in observed bird

Prior experience with this and similar species: None with this species. Have seen Wilson's warbler on numerous occasions, including my yard.

This report was written from notes made during \_\_\_\_\_ after \_\_\_\_\_ observation;  
from memory ✓.

Name (print) : John A. Maynard

Mailing address: 1515 Cheyenne Blvd Colorado Springs CO. 80906

Signature: John A. Maynard

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