

SPECIES: Prothonotary Warbler | Protonotaria citrea A
 (Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)

DATE(S): Oct. 29, 1989 TIME OF OBSERVATION: 11:00 TO 11:05

EXACT LOCATION: Chatfield S. R. A. - Approx. 1/2 mile ^{S. Platte River} upstream from Kingfisher bridge

NEAREST TOWN: _____ COUNTY: Douglas

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THIS BIRD:

None

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT: 10X40 Bushnell Binoculars

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Overcast, 45°F±, Wind 5mph± out of the North

BIRD/SUN ORIENTATION: Varied

DISTANCE FROM BIRD AND HOW MEASURED: 15ft - 300ft - estimated

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1 SEX: _____ PLUMAGE: _____

BEHAVIOR AND DEMEANOR: This bird was foraging with a mixed flock of yellow-rumped warblers, black-capped chickadees, and a few Ruby-crowned Kinglets. At first it was feeding in Russian-olives, 10-15ft above ground on the river bank. Later moving around in the tops of tall cottonwoods. No nervous tail or wing flicking.

HEAD & NECK (forehead, crown, auricular & malar regions, median line, etc.):
Head & Neck bright yellow. No face or head markings

EYES & LORES (supercilium, eye-ring, eye-stripe, color, etc.):

Eye black. No rings or lines

Lores yellow

LOWER & UPPER MANDIBLES (color & shape): Bill black, long, thin, tapered to a sharp point. Much longer than the bill of a Yellow-Rumped W.

LEGS & FEET: Legs dark (did not get a good look)

UPPERPARTS (nape, back, rump, uppertail coverts, etc.):

Nape bright yellow. Back had the appearance of a even mixture of small soft gray & yellow feathers.

Rump & upper tail coverts were dark blue-gray

UNDERPARTS (chin, throat, belly, sides, flanks, crissum, etc.):

Chin, throat, breast, & sides bright yellow. Lower belly bright white. Undertail Coverts bright white

RETRICES (inner, middle & outer tail feathers; color, pattern, shape, etc.):

Tail Feathers dark gray, no contrast apparent between tail feathers. Underside of tail grey. I could not see any spots on underside of tail.

WINGS (color, length, shape, bars, coverts, etc.):

Uniformly blue-gray. No wingbars.

VOCALIZATION (call/song, method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight):

None

HABITAT: Riparian woodland. Tall Cottonwoods, understory of Russian-olive & willow

ELIMINATION OF SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

I Eliminated blue-winged warbler by this birds lack of wing bars. No other species lacks all face, head & undersides markings or has a long bill.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES:

None. This was my first Prothonotary warbler. I have seen a few Blue-winged warblers on the east coast. Most of my experience with warblers has been with Colorado's breeding species.

BOOKS, ILLUSTRATIONS AND ADVICE CONSULTED THAT INFLUENCED THIS REPORT:

Notes were taken after I lost track of the bird. Consulted the National Geographic Guide upon returning to car.

THIS REPORT WRITTEN FROM NOTES MADE DURING AFTER ☒ OBSERVATION; FROM MEMORY

NAME: Randy Lentz SIGNATURE: Randy Lentz DATE: 10/31/89