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Help

Date: Wed, 24 Feb 1999 19:25:55 EST**From:** NCSWPL@aol.com [Add to Address Book](#)**Subject:** Fwd:**To:** rednot@hotmail.com

number 3. send a note if these look okay....wpl

Date: Thu, 18 Feb 1999 11:50:13 -0700**From:** BB Hahn <chickadd@juno.com> [Add to Address Book](#)**To:** NCSWPL@aol.com

1998-130

ACCEPTED (7-0)

Colorado Rare Bird Report

Species: Prothonotary Warbler Protonotaria citrea

Dates: August 30, 1998

Number of birds seen: One

Sex: Male

Plumage: Alternate plumaged adult

Locality: Fountain Creek Regional Park

Elevation: 5800'

Nearest town: Fountain, CO

County: El Paso

Time observed: 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Duration of observation: 10 minutes once, a couple of minutes on two occasions.

Other observers with you: David Elwonger, E. B. Ellis

Other observers who saw the bird independently: Virginia Maynard, others.

Light conditions: Early morning sun from the side. At one point the bird was on the west side of the trail in full sun.

Optical equipment: Swarovski SLC 10x42WB binocs.

Distance from bird: 20 to 50 feet.

Describe the bird's behavior: The bird was foraging low in shrubs/trees adjacent to the creek. Then it flew across the creek into a Russian

Olive, where it foraged again. Later, it returned to the east side of the creek again. Not a frenzied forager, but quick and steady. It associated loosely with Yellow and Wilson's Warblers.

Describe the bird (what you actually saw): A large warbler with golden, almost orange, head, face, and breast (just deep golden-yellow), and white undertail coverts. Back, wings and tail were dark steely-blue, with a bit of dark olive mantle. The white in the tail was noticable when it flew. Its eye stood out from its face, very dark and large looking. Bill thin and quite long for a warbler, dark. Legs dark.

Describe the bird's song and call if heard: It chipped, a firm and strident "tschick" call.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird: riparian deciduous shrubs/trees above flowing water, plants included American Elm, Marsh Ash, Siberian Elm, Cottonwood, and Tamarisk.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species:

Vs. Yellow Warbler - Bird was more robust and chunkier; head, face and breast much darker golden-yellow, back and wings almost blue; no reddish streaks in breast.

Vs. Blue-winged Warbler - Bird had NO wingbars, NO eyeline, and was chunky.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species: One male observed for many minutes at my home on 8-16-96 from about 20 feet with binocs.

List books if they helped in your identification: This bird has conspicuous plumage, but we looked in National Geographic Society Birds of North America and Dunn & Garrett's Warblers.

This report was written from notes taken after observations and from memory.

Reporting observer: BB Hahn, 2915 Hodgen Road, Black Forest, CO 80921

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