

Rcd 9/16/99  
upl**Colorado Field Ornithologists Sight Record Form**

(this is a two page report-click at the bottom for page 2)

CFO-RC FILE X:

RESULTS: ACCEPT 7-0

Print this page and then fill out. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species (please include common and scientific name): Prothonotary Warbler (Protonotaria citrea)

Date(s) of Observation: 9/14/99

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: m Plumage: Not distinguishable

Exact location: Wheatridge Greenbelt, south of foot bridge, behind fence  
slightly (50-60 ft) east of foot bridge

County: Jefferson Nearest town: wheatridge Elevation: approx 5400 ft

Length of observation: 2 minutes

Time(s) of observation: 12:30 pm

Other observers who saw the bird(s) with you: None

Other Observers who independently saw the bird(s): as of 9/15/99 10:30am (time of this report)  
NoneLight Conditions (quality; direction relative to bird(s); position): Sunny day, I was looking  
south, standing in large shaded area. Bird was also in shadeOptical equipment used: Leica 8x32 binoculars although bright as he was  
in the openDistance from bird(s) (estimated unless otherwise noted): 30-40 ft  
flew back and I observed again from about 60 ft.

Was bird(s) photographed? No If so, have you submitted photos?

Who took the photographs?

Describe the general and specific habitat in which the bird(s) occurred:

Large deciduous trees near a pond, much undergrowth, russian olives  
and berry shrubs. Tall grass.Describe the bird's behavior (flying, feeding, habits, behaviors used in identifying the  
species or in supporting the identification):slow, leisurely foraging at about eye level.  
moved slower than other warblers seen i.e. wilsons, orange-crowned  
Stayed at periphery of small, bushy trees and shrubs. Did not  
seem alarmed by my presence.[click here for page 2 of this form / Back to the CBRC Home Page Links](#)

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*page 2*

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 important 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 field notes):

*See attached*

Describe birds call or song:

Discuss similar species and how you eliminated them:

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

List books, guides, recordings or other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation): *National Geographic Birds of N. A. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Peterson guide of warblers.*

This report is from notes made during \_\_\_\_ or after ☒ observation, or later from memory \_\_\_\_.

Date of written report:

Reporting observer: *Glenn Walbeck*

Signature: *Glenn Walbeck*

Address: *10880 Parker Vista Rd.  
Parker, CO 80138  
303-841-8751*

Send report to:  
Colorado Birds Record Committee  
c/o Bill Lisowsky  
2919 Silverplume Dr.  
Ft. Collins, Co. 80526

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## Prothonotary Warbler Sighting 09/14/99

The first marks I noticed were solid yellow and white underneath. This gave me a first (very brief) impression of Yellow-Breasted Chat. Then I immediately noticed the solid bright yellow head with contrasting dark eye and no other facial marks. Wings were dark with no wing bars. Undertail coverts were white eliminating many yellow colored Warblers. The delineation between yellow belly and white undertail was strong. There were no streaks on flanks or anywhere else. The bird also appeared large (plump), considerably more so than Wilson's and Orange-crowned. Head and nape were yellow. Bird was not calling or singing.

I have visually studied Prothonotary Warbler at close range in Missouri, and briefly and at considerable distance in Texas, both this summer. It is difficult to confuse with any other bird provided a sufficient look.