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COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS

Report of Unusual Record

Species: BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER (Dendroica fusca)

Date: 14 May 1984 Time: 12:30 p.m.

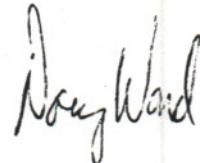
Location: Varsity Pond, C.U. Campus, Boulder Co, Boulder, CO

Description of observation:

The weather was overcast but bright. Saw a small flock of warblers feeding in the top of a 30-foot willow. I was using 8X40 binoculars and the first bird I saw clearly was this male Blackburnian Warbler.

The first thing I noticed was its flame orange breast and throat. I also noted a black triangular face and cheek patch surrounded by flame orange. There was an orange crown patch; the rest of the crown and nape was black. The back was black and white streaked and the wings were generally black with a large white wing bar. The sides from neck to flanks were streaked with black. The belly and undertail coverts were white. The tail was dark with white tail spots.

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P.S. I realize this is not presented in the required format but due to the striking plumage of this species, it could have been nothing else.