

CFO-ORC FILE # 52-94-66ACCEPTED

## COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD \_\_\_\_\_ UNUSUAL RECORD **Species:** Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)**Date:** 30 September 1994      **Number seen:** one      **Sex:** male      **Plumage:** immature**Locality:** Barr Lake State Park**Elevation:** ??**Nearest town:** Brighton**County:** Adams**Time observed:** about 7:50 AM MDT**Duration of observation:** 30 minutes

**Description:** The bird was captured for banding at the Barr Lake S.P. banding station operated by the Colorado Bird Observatory, of which I was in charge. It was a small passerine, about the size of a Townsend's Warbler that we had in hand in direct comparison. The crown was greenish-gray with black streaking. The back was a similar greenish-gray, but with much wider and coarser black streaking. It had a wide yellow superciliary (with an orange cast) that extended to the nape. A dark eyeline continued into a dark ear patch. It had a narrow white eye arc below the eye. Its chin was bright yellow with an orange cast and this color extended onto the throat and slightly beyond. The chest was washed with yellow and this faded to white on the belly. It had well-defined dark teardrop-shaped marks on individual side and flank feathers, forming streaks. The wings were blackish with green fringes on individual coverts. Two wide, bright white wing bars (white tips to both greater and median coverts) and a dark tail with white tail spots completes the plumage description. The legs were brownish and the bill was bicolored (dark culmen and tip and pink base). The plumage pattern was very similar to the Townsend's Warbler we had at the same time, but the TOWA's back was much greener with faint dark shaft streaks and the crown was greener with more conspicuous dark shaft streaks.

**Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):** The bird was not heard.

**What is your prior experience with this and similarly-appearing species?** I have seen 1000+ Blackburnian Warblers and at least 100s of all species (excluding Golden-cheeked, of which I've only seen two) that could be confused with Blackburnian (e.g. Townsend's and Black-throated Green warblers).

**Light conditions:** bright overcast sky

**Optical equipment used:** 20/10 eyeballs

**Distance, and how estimated:** estimated closest distance to eyes at 0.9 feet

**Other observers who saw the bird with you:**

Brian Johnson, 2328 Emens, Muskegon, MI 49444

Nelda Gamble, CBO, 13401 Piccadilly Rd., Brighton, CO 80601

**Other observers who saw the bird independently:** a Blackburnian had been reported at Barr Lake for a while before this bird was captured, but that bird had not been reported for a couple to a few days, so I just don't know

**If photographed, type of equipment and film:** (How is this relevant?) I photographed the bird with an immature female Townsend's Warbler; photo enclosed

**List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:**

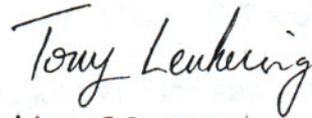
**a) at time of observation:** none

**b) after observation:** none

This report was written from memory and with reference to the photos of the individual reported.

**Reporting observer:** Tony Leukering

**Signature:**



**Address:** Colorado Bird Observatory, 13401 Piccadilly Road, Brighton, CO 80601

**Date report was written:** 7 March 1995

**Note:** Brian Johnson was extractor and first identifier of the bird.