

Rcd 11/27/99 wpe

1999 - 132

CFO-RC FILE #: \_\_\_\_\_

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS  
SIGHT RECORD FORM

RESULTS : ACCEPT 7-0

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPHS AND ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY.

SPECIES: Blackburnian Warbler Dendroica fusca  
(Common Name) (Scientific Name)

DATE(S) OF OCCURRENCE: 11-18-99

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1 SEX: ♀ PLUMAGE: First fall

EXACT LOCATION: Greenhorn Creek near west border of Colorado City limits

COUNTY: Pueblo NEAREST TOWN: Colorado City ELEVATION: 6300 feet

LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: 15 minutes TIME(S) OF OBSERVATION: 9:15-9:30 AM

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO SAW THE BIRD(S) WITH YOU:

None

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY SAW THE BIRD(S):

None

LIGHT CONDITIONS (QUALITY; DIRECTION RELATIVE TO BIRD(S); POSITION):

Excellent - clear sky - bird was north of observer

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED:

10-40 Zeiss binocular

DISTANCE FROM BIRD (ESTIMATED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED): 30 feet

WAS BIRD PHOTOGRAPHED? NO IF SO, HAVE YOU SUBMITTED PHOTOS? \_\_\_\_\_

WHO TOOK THE PHOTOGRAPHS? \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE GENERAL AND SPECIFIC HABITAT IN WHICH THE BIRD(S) OCCURRED:

Riparian creek side habitat mixed oak, willow, and cottonwood

DESCRIBE THE BIRD'S BEHAVIOR (FLYING; FEEDING; HABITS; BEHAVIORS USED IN IDENTIFYING THE SPECIES OR IN SUPPORTING THE IDENTIFICATION):

Bird foraged high in cottonwoods but sometimes low in scrub oak in company of Chickadees & Ruby-crowned Kinglet. It did not wag its tail.

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 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 OF FIELD NOTES):

This bird was slightly larger than nearby Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Its crown was olive above a broad dull yellow supercilium also emphasized by dusky olive brown auricular patch. Lower part of patch blended with dusky streaks on upper sides of breast and olive nape and shoulder, thus it was not as distinct as auricular patch of Townsend's Warbler.

Back was heavily barred or striped with alternating dark and light olive stripes. In good light outermost stripes were light buff exhibiting diagnostic braces of Blackburnian Warbler.

Wings were dark gray with two prominent white wing bars. Tail had mostly dark upper surface and white undersurface.

Throat and breast were solid yellow with dusky gray streaks mostly confined to upper sides of breast and becoming less dense as they extended into flanks. Belly and undertail coverts were white and unstreaked, strongly contrasting with yellow breast. Eye was dark. Bill was slightly longer than Kinglet's and slim. Upper mandible appeared slightly darker than lower mandible.

I did not see leg color well enough to describe.

Bird made no sound.

**DISCUSS SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW YOU ELIMINATED THEM:**

Back of Townsend's Warblers may be streaked but not striped. Auricular patch is surrounded by yellow and thus more distinct than the patch of bird I saw.

Fall Blackpoll Warblers show indistinct supercilium, usually streaked back rather than striped, and less distinct auricular patch than both Townsend's & Blackburnian Warblers.

Fall Cerulean Warblers may have streaked but not striped backs. They may be pale yellow below but not as bright as the yellow of the bird I saw.

**WHAT IS YOUR PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES?**

I have seen many Blackburnian Warblers in Missouri and a few in Colorado. I have seen many Blackpolls & Townsend's Warblers. I have seen many Cerulean Warblers in Illinois & Missouri.

**LIST BOOKS, GUIDES, RECORDINGS OR OTHER SOURCES CONSULTED AND HOW THIS INFLUENCED YOUR IDENTIFICATION (DURING AND AFTER OBSERVATION):**

Dunn & Garrett, A Field Guide to Warblers of North America

THIS REPORT WAS MADE FROM NOTES MADE DURING  OR AFTER

OBSERVATION, OR LATER FROM MEMORY .

DATE OF WRITTEN REPORT: 11-19-99

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