

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

CFO-ORC FILE # 2001-159

ACCEPTED

NEW STATE RECORD  UNUSUAL RECORD

**Species:** Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)

**Date:** 25 May 2001      **Number seen:** one      **Sex:** female      **Plumage:** adult alternate

**Locality:** Flagler SWA (UTM - 13S 0673851 4350177)      **Elevation:** ~5300 feet

**Nearest town:** Flagler      **County:** Kit Carson

**Time observed:** late morning

**Duration of observation:** about 5 minutes off and on as I made notes

**Description:**

Driving into the SWA area I noticed lots of bird activity in the trees encircling the lake. Upon getting out of my car on the SE corner of the property, I looked up to see, at my surprise, a female Blackburnian Warbler foraging in the tree tops. The most obvious characteristic, and the one that drew my attention to the bird immediately, was its orange colored bib. Much of my observation was of it from below, however, I was able to sketch a very poor drawing of it from a side view (drawing included with this report) and did see the back well when it leaned forward to probe under a leaf in the canopy.

The head was strikingly patterned with a basal color of dirty orange; a dark triangular ear patch extending from the eye (one tip of the triangle) and broadening back along the side of the face; the crown was brownish-gray; the eye was dark, as was the bill, although the base appeared to be a bit pinkish (I can't resolve why that would be); the chin, throat, and upper chest (i.e., bib) was orange colored - not luminescent orange as would be seen in a male, but enough to stand out in the crowd; the remainder of the underparts were white, except for distinct, thin, black streaks that started below the bend of the wing and extended back along the flanks; the wings were dark gray with two white wing bars that were separated from each other; the undertail pattern is shown in the drawing, but basically was white centered with a black border (I don't know what actual tail feathers were involved); the upperparts were brownish-gray and the back had bold black streaks.

**Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration):** none heard

**What is your prior experience with this and similarly-appearing species?** This is my first in Colorado. I have observed this species in spring migration throughout the east, but the total is probably less than 100 birds.

**Light conditions:** partly overcast

**Optical equipment used:** Zeiss 7x42 binoculars

**Distance, and how estimated:** mostly from directly below at about 6 meters line-of-sight

**Other observers who saw the bird with you:** none

**Other observers who saw the bird independently:** Ira Sanders reported seeing a male at this same location on May 27th.

**If photographed, type of equipment and film:**

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

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

**b) after observation:** none

**Reporting observer:** Doug Faulkner

**Signature:** 

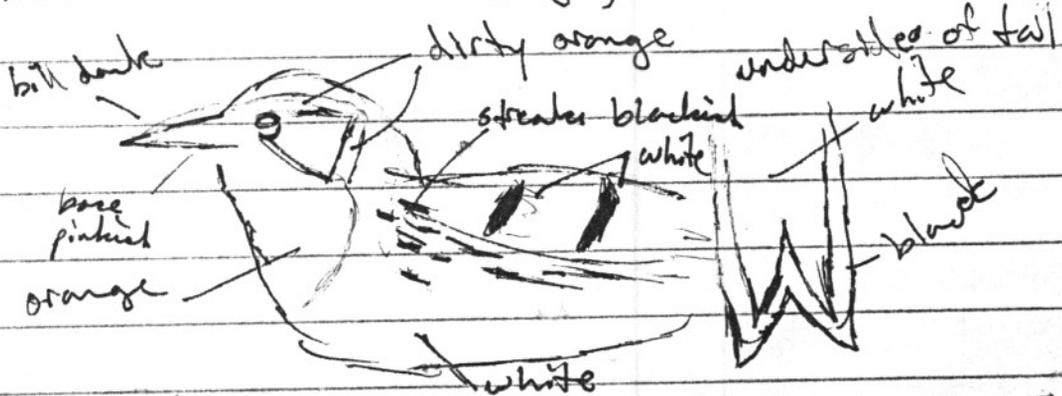
**Address:** Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, 14500 Lark Bunting Lane, Brighton, CO 80601

**Date report was written:** 23 May 2002 from notes taken and drawing made at time of observation.

UTM 13S ~~0673851~~ 158190 ~~4350177~~ 4350177

♀ BLBW Flagler SWA, SE corner

orange bib, bold eyeline a dingy orange  
 head + back brownish gray, back streaked dark



2 bold white wingbars - primaries & greater coverts?  
 legs dark wings gray

|        |      |       |      |      |
|--------|------|-------|------|------|
| BLBW ♀ | SWTH | NANA  | GHSO | LEFL |
| EAKI   | OROR | REVI  | PRMO | BARD |
| WERI   | SPSA | LEYE  | CLSU | BRTI |
| YWAR   | GBTE | PLVI  | RGBU | RWBL |
| WENS   | EMOD | EAWP! | STSA | MALL |
| HOTA   | COLR | CCSP  | WBR  | BARS |
| LABS   | COVI | EASP  | CUSP | BISA |

Kif Larson Co.

PRM-205-FIT

AMFO AMFO wodo KODO