

COLORADO RARE BIRD REPORT

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLERDendroica virensRed 1/20/00 upl
ACCEPT 7-0Location: Lake Henry grove; Crowley County; near Ordway, ColoradoDate: May 16, 1999Setting:

I was birding with Brandon Percival at the grove at Lake Henry. It was about 7:30 a.m. and we spotted the Black-throated Green Warbler almost the moment we got out of the car. It worked at mid- to high-levels through the willows at the parking area. It was a silent bird, but gave repeated good views as it worked through this area. We could not re-locate the bird later when other birders came who wanted to see it. We observed it for about 20 minutes, in good light, at distances of 25-50 feet, using binoculars.

Description:

The bird was an adult female. It was about 5" long, slim, with a small, sharp, pointed bill. It was mainly a black, white, olive and yellow warbler. It was evenly green above (back and crown) without any back streaking. The wings were blackish and it had two distinct white wing bars. The face, chin and throat were yellow with a indistinct, brownish-gray auricular patch. There was a black bib across the breast and a few black streaks down the flanks. The undersides were otherwise white. The undertail coverts had a very pale yellow wash. The tail was medium-long and dark gray. The eyes and legs were dark.

Similar Species:

Blackburnian female would show buffy lines on the back and would lack black across the chest; Magnolia would have a yellow rump and gray head; Yellow-rumped would not have the bright face pattern, would be much less yellow on the face and would have a yellow rump; Townsend's is the closest but they typically (though not always) have a streaked back, blackish crown, yellow belly, and a much darker, more pronounced, blackish ear patch.

Experience with Species:

I have Black-throated Green Warblers in Colorado, and in large numbers in Maine in May 1993. I've seen all the other similar warblers in North America.

This report is prepared from notes made during and after observation.

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