CFO-ORC FILE # 52-93-97

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

(A)

NEW STATE RECORD | | UNUSUAL RECORD |X|

Please print or type. Attach photographs and additional pages if necessary.

Species: Black-throated Blue Warbler (Vernacular Name) Dendroica caerulescens (Scientific Name)

Date(s): Sept. 23, 1993

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: M Plumage: Basic

Locality: Barr Lake State Park Elevation: 4900' (1484 meters)

Nearest town: Denver County: Adams

Time(s) observed: 1305 - 1332 DST

Duration of observation (e.g. 1 sec., 5 min., etc.): 27 minutes

Other observers who saw the bird with you (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

-0-

Other observers who saw the bird independently (give names, addresses, telephone numbers):

-0-

Light conditions (position of bird to light and shade, direction and strength of light): Partly cloudy. Bird moved from shade to full sun, back into shade. all sides illuminated in full sun overhead, and shining on bird 2 meters below me and the level of the trail.

Optical equipment used (e.g. power, types): Bushnell 10-30x 50 mm scope
Swarovski 8x56 binoc

Distance, and how measured: 8 meters at closest position (est.)

If photographed, type of equipment and film: -0-

Who else photographed the bird? 0

Describe the bird's behavior (e.g. flying, feeding, or habits used in identifying): Bird feeding in lower branches of cottonwood (5½ m above ground) and moving about on ground. Hopped up onto fallen, dead branches and trees; in the company of Orange-crowned Warbler, Black-capped Chickadee, + Yellow-rumped warbler. Calmly foraging, pecking at insects along branches + twigs, leaves.

Describe in detail the bird's relative size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern. Include details of bill, wing and tail shape. Give particular emphasis to marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions and illustrations is not enough. Describe only what you actually observed in the field: Bird appeared same size as other 2 warblers, larger than Chickadee. Long, sleek appearance. Striking pattern: dark blue upperparts, including nape + crown.
cheeks, chin, throat and sides were solid black. underparts were white as well as obvious white patch on wings at base of primaries. Small, black pointed bill; legs - pinkish/orange.
Eye black.

Description (continued):
Did not see bird fly (hidden by large tree). Mostly hopped about.

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

Describe the general and specific habitat in which you observed the bird:
Deciduous woods, weeds along dry ditch. Large amount of fallen, dead wood scattered among grass and weeds, small bushes. Bird seen from established trail, elevated 2 meters above wooded area. Barr Lake nearby, at edge of woods.

How did you eliminate similarly appearing species?
(M) Cerulean warbler has white chin and throat, 2 white wing bars; has black breast band; dark streaking on sides, not solid black; feet and legs dark.

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?
1st sighting of Black-throated Blue Warbler. Have never seen a male Cerulean Warbler.

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

a) at time of observation: "National Geo: Field Guide Birds of N. Am." - Confirmed I.D.

b) after observation:

This report was written from ~~reports~~ notes made during X, after observation _____ from memory _____

Date and time report was written: Oct. 7, 1993

Reporting observer: KAILEEN SCHOFIELD Signature: Kaileen Schofield

Address: 33 Yates St., Denver, Co. 80219

(303) 936-8661

Return to:
Bill Prather
C.F.O. Official Records Committee
13810 WCR 1
Longmont, Colorado 80504