COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS SIGHT RECORD FORM

CFO-RC FILE #: 1998-118
rec'd 6-26-98

RESULTS : ACCEPTED (7-0)

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

SPECIES: Chestnut-sided Warbler (Common Name) Dendroica pensylvanica (Scientific Name)

DATE(S) OF OCCURRENCE: June 18, 1998

NUMBER OF BIRDS SEEN: 1 SEX: Male PLUMAGE: Breeding and downhill

EXACT LOCATION: Just a couple hundred yards SE of McClure Pass, * Just mere yards from the highway, in an area of marshy meadows.

COUNTY: Pitkin NEAREST TOWN: Redstone ELEVATION: 8700'

LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: 1 min. TIME(S)OF OBSERVATION: 12:15pm

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO SAW THE BIRD(S) WITH YOU: — None

* The highway at the crest of McClure Pass runs E-W.

≠ This spot was very close to a Purple Martin nest in an aspen tree containing young.

OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY SAW THE BIRD(S): — None known to me.

LIGHT CONDITIONS (QUALITY; DIRECTION RELATIVE TO BIRD(S); POSITION):
Clear to partly cloudy, sun directly overhead

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED: Zeiss 10 x 40 B

DISTANCE FROM BIRD (ESTIMATED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED): ≈ 40 ft.

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:
Mixed Aspen-fir forest adjacent to marshy meadows/ beaver ponds? with thick willows and other shrubs

DESCRIBE THE BIRD'S BEHAVIOR (FLYING; FEEDING; HABITS; BEHAVIORS USED IN IDENTIFYING THE SPECIES OR IN SUPPORTING THE IDENTIFICATION):
The bird was actively feeding about 40 ft. up in a small grove of large aspen trees. It flitted quickly from tree to tree, singing all the while. The song attracted my attention, for it sounded somewhat like a Yellow Warbler, but not quite.

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):

The purpose of this report is to record an unusual geographic occurrence, not to report a rare, difficult-to-identify bird. The bird had the size, shape, behavior, and songtype generally shown by warblers. The bright yellow cap and bold chestnut flanks were sufficient to identify the species and sex

DISCUSS SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW YOU ELIMINATED THEM: There really are no similar species in breeding plumage.

WHAT IS YOUR PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND SIMILARLY APPEARING SPECIES?
I have seen this species in Colorado in 1991 when it nested in Apex Gulch near Golden. Since then, I have seen dozens of breeding-plumaged birds in TX during migration and in ~~not~~ on the breeding grounds.

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

The ID was made unaided.

THIS REPORT WAS MADE FROM NOTES MADE DURING _____ OR AFTER_____
OBSERVATION, OR LATER FROM MEMORY X.
DATE OF WRITTEN REPORT: June 19, 1998

REPORTING OBSERVER: J. B. Hayes SIGNATURE: J. B. Hayes

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