

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS SIGHT RECORD FORM

CFORC FIELD # 1998-101

Results : \_\_\_\_\_

used 10-8-98

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

ACCEPTED (7-0)

Species: Philadelphia Vireo Vireo philadelphicus  
 (Common Name) (Scientific Name)

Date(s) of occurrence: 10-1-98

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: First fall immature

Exact location: 1/2 mile west of Pueblo City Park near south side of Arkansas River

County: Pueblo Nearest town: Pueblo Elevation: 4700'

Length of observation: 4 minutes Times(s) of observation: 9:15-9:18 AM + 11:45-11:46 AM

Other observers who saw the bird with you: None

Other observers who independently saw the bird(s): None

Light conditions [quality; direction relative to bird(s); position]: Bird NNE of observer - overcast + light rain

Optical equipment used: 10x40 Zeiss Binocular

Distance from bird (estimated unless otherwise noted): 10 yards

Was the 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:  
Stunted Chinese elm about 10-15' high with dense understory.  
Marshy habitat with nearby pond & Arkansas River.

Describe the bird's behavior (flying; feeding; habits; behaviors used in identifying the species or in supporting the identification):  
Bird foraged low to the ground with Orange-crowned & Wilson's Warblers.

Describe the bird in detail. This is the most important part of this report. Include 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):

See reverse side.

Discuss similar species and how you eliminated them:

See reverse side

What is your prior experience with this and similarly appearing species?

I have seen a few Philadelphia Vireos in Kansas & Missouri.  
I have seen many Red-eyed & Warbling Vireos + many Tennessee Warblers.

List books, guides, recordings, or other sources consulted and how this influenced your identification (during and after observation):

This report was made from notes made during  or after \_\_\_\_\_ observation, or later from memory \_\_\_\_\_

Date of written report: 10-2-98 Reporting observer: David Silverman Signature: David Silverman

Reporting observer's address: P.O. Box 362 Rye CO 81069

Send report to: Mark Janos, 10 Sedum Court, Pueblo, CO 81001

Description: This bird was dull brownish olive above and yellowish below. It was slightly larger and bulkier than Wilson's & Orange-crowned Warblers with which it foraged.

Crown was dull brown olive showing little contrast with back & wings. The bird had no distinct wing bars.

Distinct dark eye line extended thru lores to bill & contrasted with distinct off-white supercilium.

Yellow underparts were palest on belly and undertail coverts and brightest across breast and throat.

Bill was dark and stouter than nearby warblers.

Tail was slightly darker than upper parts of bird & slightly less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of bird's size.

Legs were dark.

Similar species:

Warbling Vireos have light lores and never show their brightest yellow across the breast.

Red-eyed Vireos also are never as yellow-breasted as Philadelphia Vireos.

Yellow-green Vireo is greener above - not dull olive.

It shows brightest yellow on flanks and undertail coverts.

First Fall Tennessee Warblers have slimmer bills than Vireos. It is yellow green above and has white undertail coverts contrasting with yellow belly.

The bird I saw appeared brownish olive above & not "gray green or gray olive" described by other field guides of Philadelphia Vireos. Perhaps this bird was more brownish than grayish because it was an immature.

I also find Warbling Vireos slightly more brownish than the greenish olive illustrated in some field guides such as National Geographic.