

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species Yellow-bellied Flycatcher 2. Number 1
3. Location Hickory Hill P. Iowa City, Johnson Co., Iowa
4. Date: 19 Sep 1981 5. Time Bird Seen: 8⁰⁰ to 8⁰² (est)

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):

Empidonax with light yellow wash to underparts. Narrow eye ring definitely yellowish. Two wing bars slightly yellow - more yellow than tips of feathers which appeared white. Back green-gray.
Bird feeding in heavy undergrowth.

7. Description of voice, if heard: Heard per-seee twice. Very soft.

8. Description of behavior: Feeding in small trees. Sitting in good view several times.

9. Habitat - general: as above
specific:

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain: Identification based on yellow tinge to underparts, wing-bars and eye ring, on greenish back, and on voice.

11. Distance (how measured)?
20-30 ft (est)

12. Optical equipment:
8x40 binocs

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
Clear, but area mostly shady.

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
Seen a few times

15. Other observers:
Carl Bendish

16. Did the others agree with your identification? Yes

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
Looked at Robbins and Peterson after seeing bird and before writing description. We discussed the description as we watched the bird.

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 4 hrs.

Signature: Thomas H. Kent Address: 211 Richards St.

Date: 9/19/81 City, State: Iowa City IA 52240