

Common Yellowthroat

9 Dec 1989

Iowa City, Johnson Co., IA

J. Fuller

also 12/10; IBL 60:53, 61:85

Record Number: 89-58

Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Jim Fuller

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 60:53

Records Committee: IBl 61:85

VOTE: 7 A-D

A-D: Sounds like a good winter record.

A-D: Convincingly described.

A-D: Yellow throat, vent, rounded tail, and eyering eliminate other warblers. Interestingly, habitat and behavior were virtually identical to that of Iowa's previous winter record of this species.

A-D: Good description. Although extremely late I find Yellowthroat stragglers to be regularly present into early October.

A-D: Very good description. Head color eliminates any other species. Habitat and behavior reinforces other field marks.

A-D: A nice surprise find by a good, experienced birder.

A-D: No problem with this description. Bird was well seen and description eliminates other possibilities.

What species? COMMON YELLOWTHROAT How many? 1 FEMALELocation? MY BACKYARDType of habitat? NEAR A SEEP AT BASE OF BLUFF ALONG IOWA RIVERWhen? date(s): 9-10 DECEMBER 1989 time: 3:15 to 3:20 PM
ABOUT 11 AM to FIVE FIVE MINUTESWho? your name and address: JIM FULLER, 6 LONGVIEW KNOLL, RR#6, IOWA CITYothers with you: ON THE 10TH - JIM SCHEIB

others before or after you: _____

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, eye, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

THIS WARBLER SIZE AND SHAPED BIRD STAYED IN THE LONG GRASS ALONG THE IOWA RIVER AND AROUND AN OPEN WATER SEEP AT THE BASE OF THE BLUFF. IT NEVER FLEW MORE THAN 5 FEET OR WAS MORE THAN A FOOT OFF THE GROUND IN SHRUBS. IT WAS IN THE AREA WHERE YELLOWTHROATS NESTED LAST SUMMER. THE CROWN, BACK AND LONG ROUNDED TAIL WERE A GRAY-GREEN. IN FACT, IN THE SUN, THEY APPEARED ALMOST GREENISH. THERE WAS A FAINT EYE RING AROUND THE DARK EYE AND HAD A GRAY SIDE OF FACE. ENTIRE UNDERSIDES WERE LIGHT YELLOW, INCLUDING VENT, BUT THE THROAT WAS MORE LEMON YELLOW. LEGS WERE A LIGHT PINK COLOR. BILL WAS GRAY. IT MADE A ONE NOTE CALL SEVERAL TIMES. THIS WAS JUST PRIOR TO THE BITTER SUB-ZERO COLD, AND EFFORTS TO LOCATE IT WERE UNSUCCESSFUL AFTER THE COLD SPELL AND IT IS PRESUMED TO HAVE PERISHED.

~~AND A FEW~~Similar species and how eliminated: YELLOW VENT ELIMINATES MOST OTHER SIMILAR WARBLERS. FEMALE YELLOW IS GENERALLY LIGHTER ON NEAR AND BACK AND LACKS FACE PATTERNDid any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
BOTH DAYS WERE CLEAR. VIEWED AT 10-30 FEET WITH 8.5x44 SWIFT BINOCULARSPrevious experience with species and similar ones: SEEN OFTEN - JUST NOT IN WINTER

References and persons consulted before writing description:

NAT'L LEGALHow long before field notes made? IMMEDIATE this form completed? 36 HOURS

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