

Thompson

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Pine Warbler (Adult) 2. Number: 1
 3. Location Greenwood Park, Des Moines Iowa
 4. Date: 10/2/83 5. Time Bird seen: 9:30 a.m. to 9:40am

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):

Small bird (warbler-sized) with a bright yellow throat and breast. Unstreaked blue-green back. Yellow eye ring. Two prominent white wing bars. Belly + under-tail coverts were white. Dark legs. Underside of tail showed a lot of white, some dark streaking on the sides of the breast. Warbler bill.

7. Description of voice, if heard:
 Short trill uttered several times while feeding.

8. Description of behavior:
 Active - Feeding at the tips of pine trees 10-12 ft. off the ground.

9. Habitat - general: city park with large trees, little undercover.
 specific: Row of pines (Norway, Loblaree)

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:
 Unstreaked back eliminated blackpoll, Gray-breasted, large wing bars eliminated other warblers. Face pattern different than Prairie Warbler (had ~~wide~~ narrow eye-ring). Thin bill, actions, voice eliminate Yellow-thr. Vireo.

11. Distance (how measured)? 12-15 ft. 12. Optical equipment:

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
 Bright sun off to the side. Bird was low, so didn't look in to sun. Very good light.

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
 Two other possible encounters, Not familiar with Prairie Warbler, See Yellow-thr. Vireo regularly.

15. Other observers:

16. Did the others agree with your identification?

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:
 Gene Armstrong, Mark Dixon, Mark Rouw, Larry Totten on 10/1

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
 Had Petersen Guide during observation. Also looked at Robbins. Bird matched Petersen's perfectly. Was brighter yellow than Robbins.

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 6 hours.

Dennis Thompson Address: 1800 56th
 Signature

Date: 10/2/83 City, State: Des Moines, Iowa 50310