

DOCUMENTATION OF EXTRAORDINARY BIRD SIGHTING

*Species:* Pine Warbler; *Number:* 1

*Location:* Cone Marsh

*Date:* 27 Apr 1993; *Time:* 1:00 to 1:10 p.m.

*Name and address:* Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246.

*Others before/with/after:* none

*Habitat and circumstances:* small wooded area on northwest side of marsh

*Description of bird:* I noticed a yellowish warbler foraging with Yellow-rumped Warblers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and Blue-gray Gnatcatchers. It was slim with a thin pointed beak (not a vireo). The throat and upper breast were soft yellow shading to white in the belly and under tail coverts. The sides of the breast were faintly streaked with dark lines. The face was also yellow with a faint suggestion of an ear patch and faint thin black line through the eye. I did not detect any eye ring. The bill and legs were dark. The top of the head, back of neck, and back were olive-yellow. The wings were darker gray-blue with two white wing bars. There were no streaks in the back. The tail was relatively long and dark; I did not catch any white in the tail. I watch the bird off and on for 10 minutes as the flock moved from tree to tree.

*Voice:* Not heard.

*Similar species:* Yellow-throated Vireo has a thicker bill, pronounced eyering, and larger head. It is also more sedentary than this bird was. In the fall, Bay-breasted and Blackpoll warblers might be a consideration, but they have streaked backs and are rarely this yellow.

*Any one have reservations?:* NA

*Light:* cloudy; *Distance:* 20-40 feet (est); *Optics:* 10x binocular

*Previous experience:* saw several in Florida last week; also several in Iowa previously.

*References before/after viewing:* none

*Time of notes:* none; *Final typing:* 3 hours