

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species: Yellow-throated Warbler

Number: 1 male

Date: 6 Apr 1991

Time: 6:54-7:10 a.m.

Location: Ledges S.P., Boone Co.

Observer(s): Stephen J. Dinsmore 4024 Arkansas Dr. Ames, IA

Other observer(s): none

Description of bird(s): I was walking the lower part of Ledges State Park when I heard a loud, whistled "sa-wheet, sa-wheet, sa-wheet, see-yo" song from one of the large sycamores along the river. I immediately recognized the song as that of a Yellow-throated Warbler, several of which summer in this exact location each year.

It took me several minutes to locate the bird, high in a sycamore. I easily saw the bright yellow throat (clearly separated from the white breast), bluish-gray back, wings, and crown, white eyeline, and otherwise white underparts. The bill was slim and short.

I was quite surprised to find a Yellow-throated Warbler in central Iowa on this date. However, the extremely mild weather and strong southerly winds which preceded this sighting may explain the bird's presence at Ledges S.P. in early April. This species tends to show up quite early (at least for a warbler). My previous early date at Ledges was 12 April.

Similar species and how eliminated: The combination of the song, bright yellow throat, bluish-gray upperparts, and slim bill eliminates other warblers and Yellow-throated Vireo.

Optical equipment and viewing conditions: Estimated viewing distance was 20 yards.

Light was excellent with sun at my back. I used Bushnell 7x35 binoculars.

References consulted: none

Previous experience with species: Very familiar with this species as it is an annual summer resident at Ledges S.P.

How long before field notes written? none written

How long before this form completed? 6 hours