

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Pine Warbler (Dendroica pinus) How many? 1Location? South side of Sweet Marsh, Bremer Co., IAType of habitat? In a group of mixed pines along the south entrance into the marshWhen? date(s): September 15, 1985 time: 8:46 am to 8:50 amWho? your name and address: Francis L. Moore, 336 Fairfield St., Waterloo, IA 50703others with you: Noneothers before or after you: None that I know of

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 bird was a typical Dendroica warbler size and shape. At first I thought I had just another Blackpoll or Bay-breasted Warbler but when I got a good look at its back and saw that it was plain without streaks I took a closer look. On the back and head it was a greenish-olive color, without streaks on the back. There was a yellowish broken eye-ring with a definite blackish stripe through the eye area. The bill and feet were black. The throat, breast and sides were a lemon yellow color with indistinct dark spots on its sides. The undertail coverts and belly was white. The upper tail coverts were the same color (or close to it) as the back ~~and~~^{and} head. The wings and tail were black with white feather edging on the greater and median wing coverts and on the edging of the tertials. The bird was actively feeding in the pines and I watched it continuously for about four minutes before it flew into one of the pines and I could not find it again.

Similar species and how eliminated: Blackpoll and Bay-breasted Warblers can be similar colored but have some extent of streaking in the feathers of the back. This bird did not.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
Bright sunshine directly on the bird from approx. 30 to 50 feet most of the time using Leitz 10X40 Binoculars.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen several Pine Warblers and lots of Blackpoll and Bay-breasted Warblers.

References and persons consulted before writing description: None

How long before field notes made? 5 min. this form completed? 9 hrs.

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