BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

1. Species yellow-throated warbler 2. Number 2 ♂

3. Location Wildcat Den State Park

4. Date: 5-19, 5-27, 1979 5. Time Bird Seen: _____ to _____

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):

Smaller than English sparrow, thin sharp bill. Upper parts blackish; two white wing-bars; white stripe above eye; another vertical white bar behind eye; the two white head stripes separated by a portion of black; rest of face black. Throat + upper breast brilliant yellow; belly + under-t. coverts whitish; strong narrow black streaking at sides of breast.

7. Description of voice, if heard: series of low-pitched slurred notes (6-8) (series descended scale slightly); one of the 2 birds followed this with a higher pitched, slurred up note: tew-tew-tew-tew-tew-tew-tew &c.

8. Description of behavior: hopping from perch to perch in upper branches of sycamore tree; sang several times from each perch.

9. Habitat - general: Sycamores along stream

specific: Stream valley in large tract of moist deciduous forest

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain: Blackburnian is somewhat similar but ruled out by song.

11. Distance (how measured)? 30'-70' (est)

12. Optical equipment: 8x40 binocs.

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): Sunny day; light behind observers.

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: have extensive field experience with all eastern warblers (except Bachman's + Kirtland's). Have seen this species in MD, VA, FLA, Texas.

15. Other observers: Carol S Newlon, John Harris

16. Did the others agree with your identification? yes

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: Tom Kent, James Harrington

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description: ____

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 2 days after last sighting

Signature: Michael Newlon Address: 408 Wates St.

Date: 30 May 79 City, State: Iowa City IA 52240