

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species Northern Parula **How many?** one

Location? visitor's center, Saylorville Reservoir, Polk County

Type of habitat? opening in woodland

When? date(s): 13 November 1999 **Time:** ca 8:15 a.m.

Who? Jim Dinsmore, 4024 Arkansas Drive, Ames

Others with you no one

Others before or after you no one I know of

Describe the bird(s)

I was watching birds come to the feeder when I saw this bird fly into a shrub near the feeder. As soon as I viewed it through my binoculars, I recognized it as a warbler. It moved around a bit but stayed in the shrub for about 3 minutes and allowed me to get a number of good views of it at about 40 feet.

Small warbler with short, almost stubby tail. double white wing bars, incomplete white eye rings (crescents) above and below eyes; yellow on breast and chin with faint wash of orange; olive-yellow color on shoulders and upper back, white belly with much of rest of body steel blue in color. Seen well and no trouble identifying it as

Northern Parula, probably first fall male

Similar species and how eliminated: The combination of wing bars, eye crescents, and olive on back pretty much eliminate any other warbler. Eye crescents eliminate the remote possibility of a Tropical Parula.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? N.A.

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: good light, about 40 feet away, viewed through 10X binoculars

Previous experience Have seen this species numerous times

References & persons consulted before writing description:

Was quite sure I knew what it was without consulting field guide but did look at Robbins and Natl. Geographic guides after I viewed bird.

How long before field notes made? Notes taken in field while viewing bird and written down as soon as I returned to car, about 2 minutes after I left bird. Documentation written up next day.