

1978-05

(1978)

Species: Chestnut-sided Warbler  
(Vernacular name)Dendroica pensylvanica  
(Scientific name)

If you watch birds solely for your own enjoyment, a written description of your observations is unnecessary. But, if you have seen something unusual, and would like to share this with others, a written description is essential. Compilers of regional bird lists must insist that their records be scientifically sound; future bird students--those studying occurrences 50 years from now--must have a written record on which to depend. By providing the verifying written description, you are employing a basic rule of the scientific method.

We recognize that experienced field observers can provide important and reliable records, if supported by an adequate verifying description. Thus this request is an effort to perpetuate your record by obtaining concrete evidence which may be permanently preserved for examination by others in the future. This procedure is required for every extraordinary observation, irrespective of the observer.

Date (s): July 9, 1978 Time Bird Seen: 2:00 pm to 2:01 pmLocality: Preston Valley Campground, Logan Canyon  
Logan, Utah (Cache County)  
Nearest town, county and state:Optical equipment: Zeiss 8x30 binoculars; Swift 8.5x44 (Audubon) binocs.

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: ♂ Plumage: BreedingLight conditions: Full sunDistance from bird, and how measured: Approx. 15'Describe the bird's overall behavior: Easily + unmistakably noted preening itself, after apparently bathing in the river, at the top of a small shrub. Watched it for about 1/2 a minute.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

Brushy streamside with intermingling mature cottonwood. Campground roads, picnic tables, camping sites nearby. Logan River, a rushing canyon stream, about 10 feet from site where bird observed. Many yellow warblers in the vicinity.

Other observers who independently identified this bird (Please list name and address):

Just the 2 of us

Describe in great detail the bird which you saw. Emphasize particularly the field marks used to identify the bird, but include a complete description of the bird. Include size, overall shape, plumage and color pattern; details on shape or size of bill, wings, and tail. (Reference to its resemblance to field guide descriptions is not enough.) Describe what you actually saw in the field.

Yellow crown + chestnut striping on side were easily noted; it was the size + shape of a warbler

Describe the bird's calls or sounds, if heard; including method of delivery-- i.e., from perch, in flight, etc.:

no song

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

There was no need for this.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

We have lived in West Virginia and Massachusetts where the bird is a common breeder and is well known to both of us.

This report was written from notes made during \_\_\_ after \_\_\_ observation; from memory .

NAME (print): Elinor and Stauffer Miller

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Signature: Stauffer Miller

Return to:

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