

1982-03 ufo

Species: PHILADELPHIA VIREO
(Vernacular name)VIREO philadelphicus
(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.

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Date (s): 29 APRIL 1982Time Bird Seen: 5:45 p.m. to 5:55 p.m.Locality: NEAR BOTANY Pond, BYU ARBORETUM, BYU, PROVO UTAH

Nearest town, county and state:

Optical equipment: Bushnell 10X40 ROOF PRISM

If photographed, please enclose copy. Equipment used:

Number of birds seen: 1 Sex: — Plumage: SPRING - NO changeLight conditions: SUN Behind me, Bird towards EAST. 6000 LIGHT, clearDistance from bird, and how measured: 80 FT. (ESTIMATE, AFTER SKY)

Describe the bird's overall behavior:

Bird WAS feeding ABOUT 40 FT UP IN A NARROW LEAF poplar, deliberately moving from emerging LEAF Bundle to Bundle. THE Bird STAYED on the same section of the TREE THE TEN MINUTES I observed, moving and picking insects off the new LEAVES.

Describe the habitat in which you observed the bird:

A HILLSIDE ARBORETUM WITH ARTIFICIAL creek meandering through. Lots of underbrush, some exotic species of shrub present. TREES ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES. THIS IS A pretty "birdy" AREA I check once or twice weekly.

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

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.

When I initially saw this bird I identified it as a WARBLING VIREO - IT showed a white eye stripe with a darker stripe through the eye becoming somewhat darker in the lore region. The back, head, forehead, ~~and~~ rump & tail were a uniform gray green, greener than the familiar grayish-greenish back of the warbling vireo. The underparts were vividly yellow, becoming less intense towards the ~~stomach~~ belly. Sometimes a warbling vireo shows a SLIGHT "crest"; this bird did NOT. There were no wing bars and the eye itself was dark as was the bill.

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

Silent

List similar species and how you eliminated them:

After I initially thought warbling vireo, the yellow underparts made me reconsider. The yellow I have seen on warbling vireos has always been lightly imposed on the sides - (when present) this guy was yellow from chin to belly.

The bill (thick) and stubby built discounted Tennessee Warbler, which in spring shows no yellow underparts anyway. There were plenty of orange crowned hearby for comparison.

Prior experience with this and similar species:

I see lots of warbling vireos every summer. I have seen Tennessee Warbler once previously. I have never seen a Philadelphia prior to ~~to~~ today.

This report was written from notes made during _____ after ☒ observation; from memory.

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Signature: Mark T. Bromley

Return to: UFO RECORDS COMMITTEE

% Josh Burns

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