

19-1987

UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: Red-eyed VIREO

Scientific Name: VIREO olivaceus

Date: 9/25/87

Time: 9:15

Length of time observed: on & off for about 45 min

Number: 1

Age: ?

Sex: ?

Location: west of Milford, Beaver Co., Utah

Latilong: 14

Elevation (if known): ?

Distance to bird:

15 to 40 feet

Light conditions:

Optical equipment: Bino's 10x50

Excellent

Weather: Clear/warm

Description: (Write a detailed description of the bird's appearance, including size, shape, plumage pattern, color, and any unique features.)

The first impression I got was: a large richly colored warbling vireo! Definitely larger and chunkier than a warbling. The eye color wasn't seen, but the broad white superciliary bounded by black was very obvious. It seemed straighter and brighter than the warbling.

The crown color was a rich gray and gradually changed to greenish-brown as it progressed down the neck, the back, (olive) rump, wings, and tail were virtually concolor greenish-brown.

The throat, breast, and belly were crisp white with

bright yellow undertail coverts

No wing bars were present.

The bill was heavier and longer proportionately than a warbling vireo.

The bird seemed much less active and nervous than the 'smaller' warblers.

Overall a big, chunky, brightly colored warbler!

Voice or call notes and method of delivery:

Bird was silent

Behavior:

Sluggishly gleaned insects(?) from leaves of an elm tree about 20 ft. up; it would fly a few feet and work the branches in that position - very slow deliberate movements.

Habitat:

mixed elm & box elder row of trees in an area that otherwise was sparsely treed. ... good "warbler trap" type place

What similar species might it have been and how were these eliminated:

Warbling vireo: proportionately smaller body and bill to body ratio. Less brightly colored - has no dark line bordering the upper edge of the supercillium. Much more active than the bird in question.

Philadelphia vireo: smaller even yet and also lacks the dark upper border to the supercillium. Underparts are more washed with yellow.

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

Red-eyed - none.

Warbling - probably seen 45 quadrabazillion this year alone!

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

Nat'l Geographic & Audubon's Master Guide confirmed field marks

Significance of record in this area or the state:

Probably a transient in spring & fall.

Additional material: (attach drawing, photograph, tape recording if available)

None

Description from notes taken at time of sighting ☒ notes made later ☐ from memory ☐

Observer:

CRAIG L. KNEEDY

Signature:

Craig Knedy

Address:

314 S. 4500 W.

West Point, Utah

84015

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

None

Date prepared:

10/30/87

Return this form to:

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