

UTAH ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Verification of Unusual Sight Record

Common Name: Blackpoll WARBLER

Scientific Name: *Dendroica striata*

Date: Sept. 22, 1990 Time: 8:00 AM

Length of time observed: 2 min

Number: 1 Age: fall adult? Sex: ♀

Location: Pelican Lake, Uintah Co., Utah

Lat/long: 7 ?

Elevation: 5200 ft

Distance to bird: 30 ft - 70 ft.

Light conditions: good

Optical equipment: BINOS 10 x 50

Weather: cool / clear

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

WARBLER (yellow-rump sized) with deep olive upperparts with very faint streaking. Fine yellowish supercilium with a dark eye stripe through lores. Throat and breast very light yellow with faint diffuse streaking, lower belly and undertail coverts white. Dark wings with two white wing bars. Dark tail with large white tail spots on under surface. Bill dark, upper part of leg dark with yellowish feet and shank. Rump same color as back.

Voice or call notes:

Chip heard - separable from the accompanying yellow rumps.

Behavior:

Foraging from mid-level to tops of trees with band of migrants (Y.R.s, ~~Yellow-crowned~~, & McMillan's)

Habitat:

Isolated grove of trees (cottonwoods) on S.W. shore of Pelican Lake

Describe what specific features you saw or heard that caused you to reach your conclusion:

The combination of a drab bird with contrasting dark wings and wing bars with tail spots and a rump the same color as the back. Light streaking on back and in the light yellow breast. The light colored feet helped point to Black poll.

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

Pine warbler - back unstreaked, face pattern around auriculars (not just eyeline), dark legs and feet

Bay-breasted - usually has chestnut on flanks, no eyeline (or faint), upper parts brighter green, legs & feet dark, unstreaked breast.

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

None

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

Advanced birding, National Geo. Spoonfed by Ella

Significance of record in this area or the state:

Rare fall migrant

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

Observer:

CRAIG L. Kneedy

Signature:

Address:

314 S. 4500 W
West Point Utah 84015

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Ella Sorenson

Date prepared:

12/29/90 - from memory

Return this form to:

Utah Ornithological Society
C/O Ella Sorenson
3868 Marsha Drive
West Valley City, Utah 84120