

RARE SPECIES DOCUMENTATION  
Records of Vermont Birds

The following form has been prepared to encourage full documentation, when requested, of rare or unseasonal birds in the state of Vermont. These reports are put into a permanent file and should be as detailed as possible. New reports are reviewed annually by the Vermont Bird Records Committee, which evaluates records for their acceptability to future researchers and for inclusion in the state bird list.

Please print or type

SPECIES: Pine Warbler

NUMBER OBSERVED: 1

OBSERVER MAKING REPORT: OTHER OBSERVERS (and addresses if available)

Cat Abbott

LOCATION: (place, township, county)

Putney Great Meadow, Putney, Waltham Co.

DATE:

11/12/14

TIME AND LENGTH OF OBSERVATION:

4:05 p.m. 3-4 minutes

DISTANCES FROM BIRD: Maximum

6m

Minimum 4m

WEATHER:

wind direction \_\_\_\_\_ wind speed \_\_\_\_\_

sky cover Sunny light in relation to observer's position temperature

sun behind me, excellent

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT: (make, power, etc.)

Leica Ultravid 10x42

1st cont. 10/22

OBSERVER'S PREVIOUS ACQUAINTANCE WITH THIS SPECIES OR SIMILAR FORMS:

I regularly see pine warblers, although they're usually at the top of tall pine trees

OTHER DOCUMENTATION: Photo \_\_\_\_\_

Tape Recording \_\_\_\_\_

Specimen \_\_\_\_\_

If yes to the above, where is this information deposited? \_\_\_\_\_

HABITAT: (be as detailed as possible, include associated bird species)

Bird initially caught my attention as it flew up from the understory into a small deciduous tree (covered in bitter-sweet berries) at edge of meadow. No other birds were in the immediate vicinity, a large hawk flew

BIRD'S BEHAVIOR: (feeding actions, manner of flight, displays or interactions, reaction to observer)

Bird's behavior was noteworthy for its inactivity.

Bird flew from ground onto branch at eye level. I approached, then closer, and bird flew up to next branch and stayed there. Behavior

VOCALIZATION: (song or calls)

more like a Thrush than a warbler.

Silent

DESCRIPTION: (Describe what you actually saw during the observation. We hope that observers will take field notes during the observation and before consulting field guides, etc. Additional pages with sketches and copies of field notes are encouraged.)

Relative size and shape:

Largeish warbler

Head (crown, cheeks, eye, throat, nape):

Head and nape were olive green. Lots of yellow on throat and around eye. Yellow lores.

Feet and Bill (shape, color, length):

Bill was straight and black.

Upper back:

Olive green

Lower back and rump:

Olive green

Wings (shape, length, markings):

Two clear white wing bars

Breast, belly, flanks, undertail coverts:

Breast was yellow. No bands or streaks visible. Belly and undertail coverts were white.

Tail (shape, length, markings):

IMPORTANT: WHAT SIMILAR SPECIES WERE ELIMINATED WHEN MAKING THIS IDENTIFICATION AND HOW WAS THIS BIRD DIFFERENT?

First notice a small bird with quite a bit of yellow. Straight black bill pointed to warblers. Yellow Throat, olive-green color (not brownish/gray), lack of streaks, lack of yellow rump eliminated yellow-rump. Two white wing bars eliminated common yellowthroat. White belly and white undertail coverts eliminated orange-crowned. Lack of vireo bill

COMMENTS: (was age or sex determined?, etc.) and lack of yellowish flanks eliminated blue-headed

Yellow ~~spectacles~~ spectacles, yellow throat, white wing bars, white belly + undertail

Breast yellow suggests adult.

This report was written from notes taken during \_\_\_\_\_ immediately after \_\_\_\_\_ the observation, or written from memory \_\_\_\_\_ (please attach copies of notes if available)

NAME (print) Cat Abbott SIGNATURE (not req'd) Cat Abbott

MAILING ADDRESS 407 Purple Mountain Road, Dunsmuir, VT

DATE 11/15/14

I watched the bird until I was confident of the i.d. and then I left the area before it did. Not the usual experience with warblers

→ pine warbler. This was an unusual observation in that