

First confirmed locality of Yellow-throated Warbler *Dendroica dominica* for Colombia

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Abstract

Records of *Dendroica dominica* are presented from Reserva Natural de las Aves El Dorado, Santa Marta, Colombia.

Resumen

Se presentan registros de *Dendroica dominica* de la Reserva Natural de las Aves El Dorado, Santa Marta, Colombia.

Yellow-throated Warbler is known previously on the South American mainland to our knowledge only from a series of sight records (Hilty & Brown 1986, Strewe & Navarro 2004) and a "Bogotá" specimen (Salaman et al. 2008). There are various records in San Andrés island (McNish 2003). The species was listed as "SA Obs*" in the last edition of the Colombian checklist (Salaman et al. 2008), indicating that there are only sight records from the mainland.

On 4 November 2007 Trevor Ellery observed an adult Yellow-throated Warbler *Dendroica dominica* at Reserva Natural de Aves El Dorado, San Lorenzo ridge, Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Magdalena, Colombia at the border between a Mexican Pine *Pinus patula* plantation and native forest in a mixed species flock including Black-throated Green-Warbler *Dendroica virens*. The locality is on the main road that runs through the reserve, c. 3 km by road above the reserve centre (11.06°41.23'N 74.03° 33.45'W, 2,210 m). Unaware of the previous observation, Thomas Donegan observed the same species, and presumably the same individual, at the very same spot at c. 14:00 hrs on 3 January 2009 in a flock together with Slate-throated Whitestart *Myioborus miniatus* and Blackburnian Warbler *D. fusca*.



Figure 1: *Dendroica dominica* at Reserva Natural El Dorado, 20 February 2009 (Deb Hahn).

Two observations of this Neotropical vagrant sparked what may be one of the first examples of a "twitch" in Colombia. Various bird tour groups, which frequently visit the reserve, made a special effort to observe the species. On 20 February 2009, a photograph (Figure 1) and video (available at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M04ZKj5HKXs>) were taken by Deb Hahn and Guy Foulks respectively on a tour guided by Trevor Ellery.

References

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