

# ILLINOIS DOCUMENTATION FOR UNUSUAL BIRD SIGHTINGS

Submitted to Illinois Ornithological Records Committee (IORC)

**Documenter name:**

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**Documenter email address:**

[REDACTED]

**Date of submission:**

10 May 2019

**This form submitted as supporting documentation of (check all that apply):**

- Unusual species
- Unusual date
- Unusual number
- Unusual plumage
- Unusual breeding record
- Christmas Bird Count record
- Spring Bird Count record
- Breeding Census record
- Other

**Specify nature of other submission type if checked:**

**Species:**

Kirtland's Warbler

**Number of birds:**

1

**Age/sex/plumage (if known):**

Adult, Male, Alternate (Breeding)

**Date of observation:**

9 May 2019

**Location of observation (include county):**

Grant Park, Chicago, Cook

**Observers present (including yourself):**

Carl Giometti, Nathan Goldberg, Stephanie Beilke, Kenneth Wysocki, & many others

**Others agreeing with the identification:**

Everyone who has seen the bird or photos of the bird

**Others NOT agreeing with the identification:**

**Description of bird, including size; shape; proportions; details of both color and patterns on head, back, chin, throat, breast, flanks, undertail, wings, and tail, etc.; coloration of soft parts (bill, eye, legs and feet). Include only details actually seen in the field.**

Gave impression of larger warbler. Dark gray/black back extending onto the head with darkening of loreal feathers. Broken eye ring. Yellow breast, feathers decreasing in color saturation near the belly and bright white undertail coverts. Broken black streaks along flanks.

Additional details were seen by others

**Description of behavior:**

Bird flitted its tail repeatedly, similar to Palm Warbler. Bird flew back and forth between open mud planters, flower trees, and taller more mature trees. Bird is still present at the time this report is being submitted.

**Description of vocalizations:**

Gurgling, bouncy sing-song pattern. Like a wacked out Kentucky warbler. Recording obtained by Nathan Goldberg.

**Description of immediate and surrounding habitat(s):**

Urban park. Large mature trees that have been pruned up to 20-30 feet with a few lower trees commingled. Paved areas prevalent, open mud planters and flowering trees nearby.

Exact location: 41°52'37.7"N 87°37'18.7"W

**Viewing conditions:**

**Optical equipment used for observation:**

10x42 Binoculars

**Distance (note how measured or if estimate):**

Stationary, bird circulated in a 50 yard x 50 yard area

**Time of observation:**

9:15:00 AM

**Total amount of observation time:**

5 minutes but much longer by others

**Weather, sky conditions, and relative position of the sun; include relevant regional or national weather patterns:**

Temperatures in the low 60's at time of initial observation. Previous night had light precipitation with southeasterly winds.

**Previous experience with this species and similar species:**

Observed the 2015 Montrose Kirtland's for about 3 seconds.

**Please eliminate other similar species and/or hybrids:**

Kirtland's warblers have not been documented as hybridizing with other birds (per Birds of North America online).

Field marks, song distinctive.

**Were photos obtained? If yes, indicate by whom and whether the photos are included with this documentation.**

Yes. By many.

**Please list reference material consulted and advice received in preparation of this documentation, and indicate how these influenced the description:**

Sibley's Guide

**How long after the observation were field notes recorded?**

45 minutes

**How long after the observation was this form completed?**

1 day

**Additional remarks:**

It was a Kirtland's yo.

(i haven't gotten permission from anyone to use their photos, yet, so no photos are included in this report.)