

**Subject:** OBRC Rare Bird Report  
**From:** Ross.w.wood@gmail.com  
**Date:** Sun, 16 Jan 2011 08:43:03 -0700  
**To:** obrc@ofo.ca

### OBRC Rare Bird Report

Date received: Sunday January 16, 2011  
 Received from: [Ross Wood \[Ross.w.wood@gmail.com\]](mailto:Ross.Wood@gmail.com)  
 IP Address: [24.141.165.138](http://24.141.165.138)

### Reporting Observer

Name: Ross Wood  
 Address: 2424 Overton Drive  
 City: Burlington  
 Province: Ontario  
 Postal Code: L7P 4B5  
 Email: Ross.w.wood@gmail.com  
 Phone: (905)220-6987  
 Original finder's name and address if known: Janice Chard  
 Other observers' names and addresses: Eleanor Page- eleanor@googlemail.com  
 Avery Bartels- averybartels@hotmail.com  
 Rebecca Wilcox  
 Ed Conrad  
 David Hussen  
 Erica Dunn  
 Neil Pearson

### Report Details

Species,select one: Green-tailed Towhee  
 or other species not on list:  
 Number: 1  
 Age: first year  
 Sex: don't know  
 Date you saw it using this format: 25 January 2010: 21 October 2010  
 Time of day seen: 9am  
 Duration of observation (give times): 9am-9:30, briefly again aat about 10:15am  
 First and last dates bird(s) known to be in area: 21 October 2010, 25 October 2010  
 Exact location seen: The Tip of Long Point, Norfolk Ontario  
 GPS if available:  
 Habitat: Grape tangles  
 Weather conditions: Winds were very strong from the NW all day  
 Kind of lighting on bird: NA  
 Observer's distance from bird: in hand  
 Optics used:  
 Photographs taken?: Yes  
 Video taken?:  
 Illustration made?:  
 Date this report written: 16 January 2011

### General Observations

- 1) Circumstances of the observation The bird was first found in a ground trap during regular banding practices by Janice Chard. As she wasn't sure exactly what it was, but did know it was something very different, she quickly put it into a bird bag and brought it to me. Once I looked at the bird it was placed back in the bag for safest keeping while I rounded up everyone for a chance to see it. The bird was banded and aged as a hatch year based on plumage and skull ossification. Photos were taken and the bird was released. I did observe the bird 1 more time about 45 minutes later in a tangle of grapes right near where it was caught and where I released it.
- 2) Description. It was easily identified with there really not being any similar looking species. Since my observation started as I reached into the bird bag the first thing I saw was the Rufous crown and the yellow-green back and tail. The clean white throat and black malar stripe, gray underside and face were as pictured in Sibley Guide to Birds.
- 3) How were similar species eliminated? No similar species
- 4) Experience with claimed species Never seen before.
- 5) Field guides/references consulted Sibley, Peter Pyle's Guide to identifying North American Birds Part 1.
- 6) Any additional commentary/analysis The bird was later seen that afternoon by Avery Bartels and Neil Pearson about 250m west of the original location by the house. Again the bird was seen by Avery Bartels foraging with a mixed flock on 25 October about 1km west of the original location and was never seen again.
- Description made from Field Notes