

## A Partial-albino Yellow-rumped Warbler in Hancock County, Mississippi

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On 23 January 1981, at Buccaneer State Park in Hancock County, Mississippi, we observed a Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) exhibiting partial albinism. Morgan spotted the bird at about 09:00, noting its unusual paleness. It fed with a flock of normally-pigmented individuals of its species, and responded well to "pishing," so that we had excellent views from all angles using 7 x 35 mm binoculars. We observed the bird for about 8 minutes from as close as 6 meters, as it fed at eye level or below in assorted saltmarsh-edge shrubs. The bird gave chip notes characteristic of Yellow-rumped Warblers.

The following is a description of its plumage: wings normal, the feathers dark gray with pale edgings, creating two prominent wing-bars; tail also dark gray, with characteristic white spots; head white, except for well-defined pale gray auricular patch separated from eye by white eye-ring; nape and back completely white; rump bright yellow, and upper tail coverts dark. Underparts were generally white from the chin to the undertail coverts, except for a few faint gray streaks on the sides of the breast; a slight wash of yellow was also present at the sides of the breast near the shoulder. The bill, eyes, and legs were dark. If we assume the bird to be an immature, then the only abnormally unpigmented areas were the upperparts from the forehead to the lower back.

Albinism is relatively rare in the Parulidae. Gross (1965, Bird-Banding 36:67-71) reported it as occurring in 11 species of wood warblers (31 individuals), although he failed to list them.