

**Today's Date:** 12/5/2022

**Time:** 10:34:17

**Your Name:** Russ Namitz

**Your Email:** namitzr@hotmail.com

**ID:** Prothonotary Warbler. One bird, but age is uncertain (for my sighting).

**Date of Sighting:** November 21, 2022

**Time:** 10:10:00 AM

**Location:** Nasomah Memorial along 1st St SW and then I moved one block east to Oregon Ave SE

**Conditions:** It was a calm and clear day. Lighting was decent, but I was looking slightly into the sun and moved over to Oregon Ave SE to look down on trees with the sun to my back.

**Do you have prior experience with this species?**

Yes, I have seen this species a number of times back east (US), in Oregon and also down in Mexico.

There is really no other warbler species that has this distinct combination of entirely yellow head/body with blue wings.

# eBird Checklist - 20 Nov 2022 - Prothonotary Warbler 2022 - 21 species (+2 other taxa)



Tim Rodenkirk <timrodenkirk@gmail.com>  
to me ▾

Wed, Nov 23, 2022, 6:26 PM ☆ ↶ ⋮

eBird Checklist - 20 Nov 2022 - Prothonotary Warbler 2022 - 21 species (+2 other taxa)

<https://ebird.org/checklist/S122722676>

Hi Teresa,

This is my eBird report/rare bird report for the Prothonotary from Sunday. Looks like no one got photos- bummer. Russ Namitz also saw it Monday so it is looking like a 2-day wonder at this point.

Let me know if you need anything else.

Happy Thanksgiving!  
Tim

CHECKLIST S122722676

## Sun 20 Nov 2022 7:32 AM

**Prothonotary Warbler 2022** 📍 Coos County, Oregon, United States

**Tim Rodenkirk**

**Traveling** Complete 🟢

👤 3 🕒 1 hr, 29 min 📄 0.5 mi

With Pip, clear-sunny, 37F. With Dave Lauten and Kathy Castelein part of time. Walked area around Nasomah Memorial.

Submitted from eBird for iOS, version 2.13.20

### 1 Prothonotary Warbler

Wow! Seen at 0747 in back of Nasomah Memorial in downtown Bandon then again with Dave Lauten and Kathy Castelein at 0845 about 1/2 block east of there. When I arrived at Nasomah I began pishing and almost immediately a bright golden warbler flew in and landed three feet in front of me in a leafless willow at eye level- I immediately knew PROTHONOTARY WARBLER, ya hoo! Warbler with a bright yellow mantle, nape, head, face, neck, breast, and upper belly area not at all like a Yellow Warbler- much more intensely golden. No streaking. Plus the wings were a blue-gray color (no wing bars) and it had it had almost a wren like poise with it's tail up. The lower belly and undertail coverts were white. Short tail. The bird GLOWED as only Prothonotaries do. I have seen scads of these back in the Midwest so I absolutely new instantly what it was and never dreamed I would see one in Coos County although the first state record was from Coos County back before I new birds existed. It bopped around a bit then flew east out of sight. I then immediately started texting so that Dave and Kathy could come see it. I left the area until they arrived as I was afraid if I pished too much it might fly off. We relocated it over in the tall willows about a 1/2 block away and we all had stunning views there too as it was out about eye level low on the end of some willow tree branches. It then flew by us and landed in some bushes behind it but we left it be knowing that others would show looking for it.

<b>YOUR NAME</b>	David J Lauten and Kathleen A Castelein
<b>YOUR EMAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:deweysage@charter.net">deweysage@charter.net</a>
<b>BIRD IDENTIFICATION</b>	Prothonotary Warbler
<b>DATE(S) OF OBSERVATION</b>	11/20/2022
<b>TIME OF DAY</b>	8:50 AM
<b>LOCATION</b>	Corner of First st and Oregon Ave, Bandon, Coos Cty
<b>LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS</b>	Sunny, calm
<b>DETAILS</b>	<p>Passerine, in the warbler family, same general size as the numerous Yellow-rumped warblers it was associated with, traveling with other warblers. First saw on trunk of tree - one of several trees in a line. Bird was on side of trunk, flew into branches, worked around trunk and then flew across the street into a line of mostly blackberries. Bird had a golden yellow head, much brighter colored than any other bird around, yellow feathers spread down the nape, neck, onto chest and belly, and onto back. No streaks in breast. Jet black eyes and pointy jet black bill. Steely blue wings and tail. No wing bars or other distinctive markings. White undertail coverts. No other warbler in the family is similar, very distinct and unique, clearly a Prothonotary Warbler based on plumage and behavior.</p>
<b>DO YOU HAVE ANY PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH THIS SPECIES?</b>	have seen numerous in Wisconsin and New Jersey. Clearly this species, not easily confused with anything else.
<b>SIMILAR SPECIES</b>	Yellow warbler is all yellow with red streaks in chest; Nashville warbler has gray head. There are no species to confuse with this.
<b>DO YOU HAVE PHOTOS?</b>	No

# PROW-2022-11 (Prothonotary Warbler)

## 1st round vote — March 1, 2023

Accepted: 9  
Not Accepted: 0

### **Accepted, sight record, multiple reports**

Solid report by highly experienced observer. As I understand, the bird was also seen by other observers around the same time.

The description of this bird is very brief, but as the observer mentioned, no other warbler has a yellow head and body with blue wings. I would have liked to have seen the back, tail and the vent described.

Tim R.'s description covers all pertinent field marks and effectively rules out similar species. While Russ offers fewer details, I have no doubt that he saw the same bird a day later. What an amazing winter for are warblers on the South Coast!

The description sounds spot on for a Prothonotary Warbler, which is not a species that can be confused with much else if seen well (which it certainly sounds as if it was).

The field marks noted by the combination of observers rule out other potential warbler species.

No comments

should be distinctive

Solid descriptions from reputable birders

Great description by multiple very experienced observers. Key field notes noted in both descriptions. Too bad there were no photos submitted.

A brief, but credible report. I would like to have seen a description of the face and eye, as well as the tail in flight. However, the minimal description does rule out other similar species.

### **Not Accepted**

Respectfully, I think a bird with less than a one second view should be chalked up to "a good one that got away." I don't think enough was seen critically to call this a super rarity with certainty.