

A CERULEAN WARBLER SINGING A HOODED WARBLER SONG

On 30 May 2009, at Doodletown Rd., Rockland County, among the plentiful Cerulean and Hooded Warblers that were present, there was one Cerulean Warbler that was performing a spot-on rendition of a Hooded Warbler song. It briefly performed a few typical Cerulean songs at one point, but was clearly favoring the Hooded song. The only discernible difference between this bird's song and that of a typical Hooded was that it added an extra phrase: i.e. "wheeta-wheeta-wheeta-wheechy-o." It was bizarre watching this bird singing a song that was so different in both cadence and voice than the one that one would have expected.

The bird's plumage did not differ in any obvious way from that of a typical Cerulean (see Fig. H., p. 266). A small white patch behind the eye possibly indicates that this was a first-year male. This bird was near the reservoir, at the bend in the trail where it branches to June Cemetery.

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