

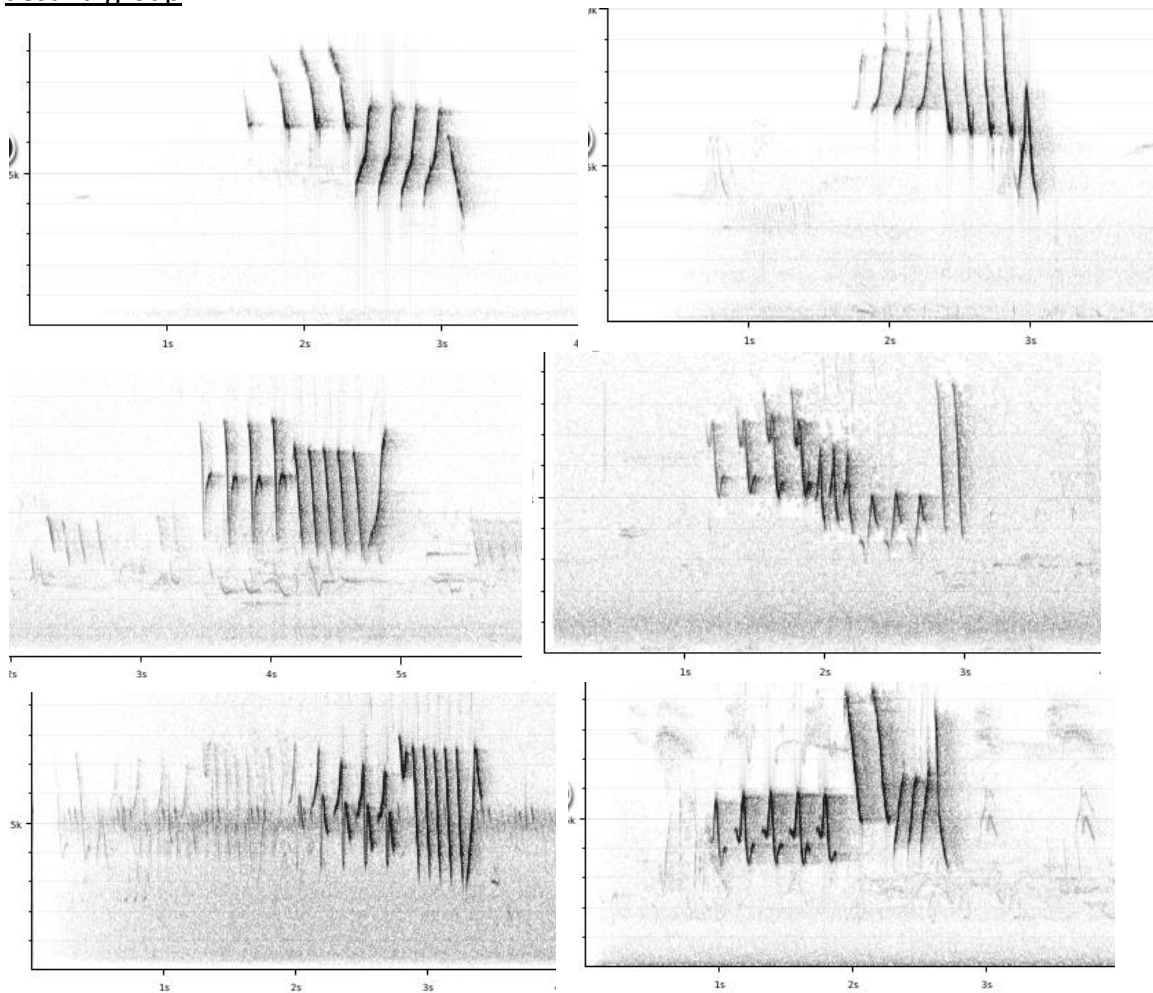
## Notes on the vocalizations of Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*)

Peter Boesman

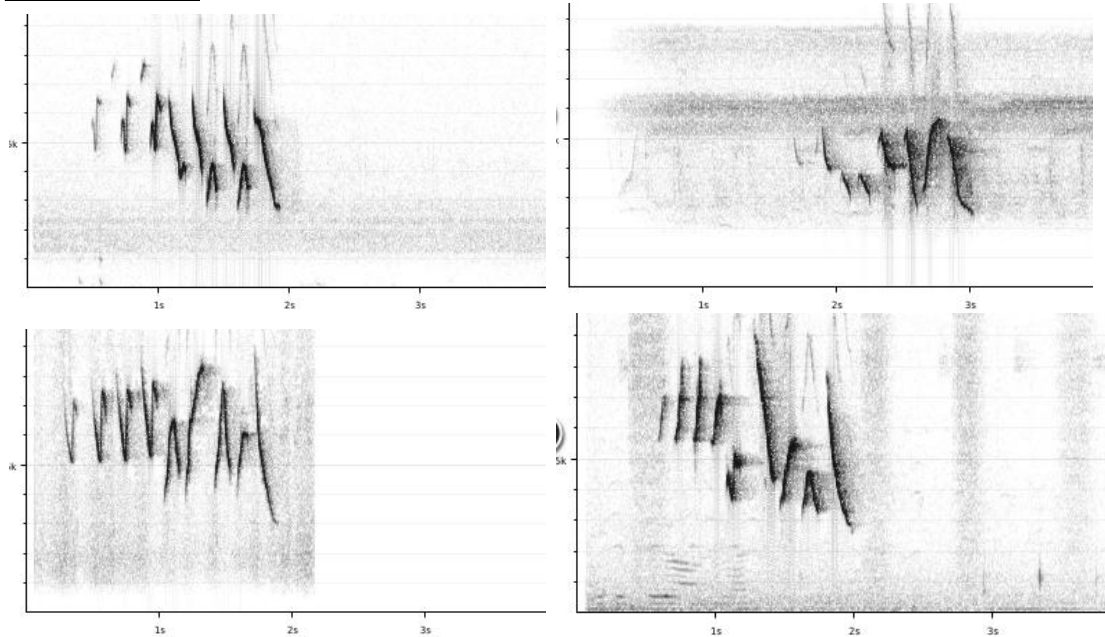
In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the different races of Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*). We also try to quantify the extent of any vocal differences using the criteria proposed by Tobias *et al.* (2010), as a support for taxonomic review. We have made use of sound recordings available on-line from Xeno Canto (XC).

Some sonograms of the song, for the three recognized groups:

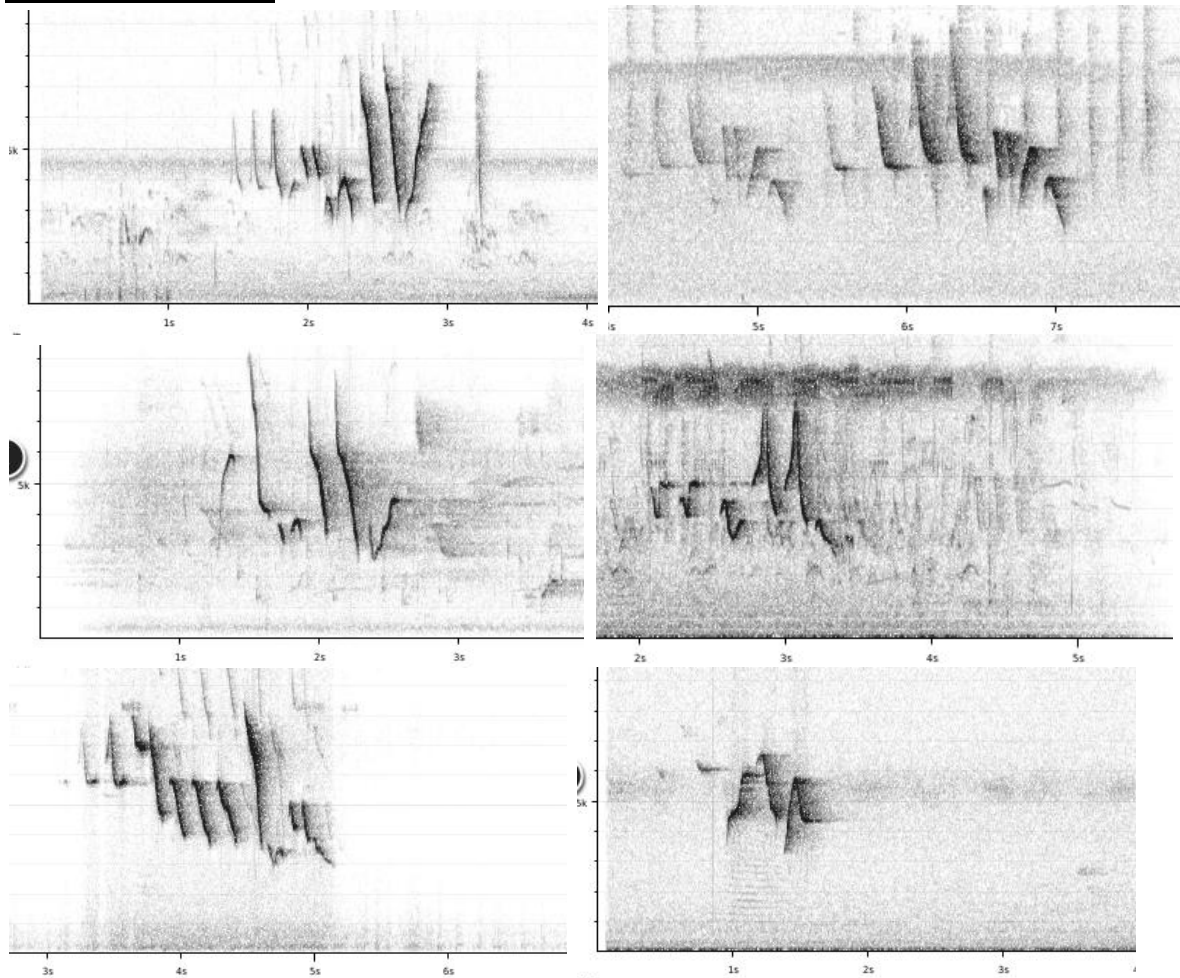
### *aestiva* group



petechia group



erithachorides group



Song of *aestiva* group has typically two or three series of repeated (nearly) identical notes. The sum of the two series with most repeats contains 5-10 notes.

Song of *petechia* group: the sum of the two series with most repeats contains 4-6 notes.

Song of *erithachorides* group: The sum of the two series with most repeats contains 2-5 notes.

Other than that, given the variability of song phrases, we haven't found other obvious differences.

We can thus conclude that the *aestiva* group is vocally the most distinctive one, and above-mentioned quantified difference leads to a score of 2 vs both other groups.

*petechia* and *erithachorides* are more similar, but the latter has even less repeated notes.

This note was finalized on 24th June 2016, using sound recordings available on-line at that moment. We would like to thank in particular the many sound recordists who placed their recordings for this species on XC and ML.

## References

Tobias, J.A., Seddon, N., Spottiswoode, C.N., Pilgrim, J.D., Fishpool, L.D.C. & Collar, N.J. (2010). Quantitative criteria for species delimitation. *Ibis* 152(4): 724–746.

## Recommended citation

Boesman, P. (2016). Notes on the vocalizations of Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*). *HBW Alive Ornithological Note* 372. In: *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from <http://www.hbw.com/node/1252922> on 29 November 2016).