

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of species on the Louisiana Bird Records Committee (LBRC) Review List. The LBRC recommends the use of this form or a similar format when submitting records for review (to assure that all pertinent information is accounted for). Attach additional pages as necessary. Please print or type. Attach xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. English and Scientific names: **Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus couchii*)**
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One, presumed (AHY) adult
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: (parish) **Cameron Parish**

Specific Locality: **jct. of Weekly Rd./ PR-122 x LA-717 (Klondike Loop), ca. 2.0 mi. W of Klondike**
4. Date(s) when observed: **26 December 2020**
5. Time(s) of day when observed: **~12:45 PM CST**
6. Reporting observer and address: **Devin Bosler
13803 Crossing Way West
Edmond, OK 73013**
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): **none**
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): **Originally discovered by Robb Dobbs on 18 Dec. 2020 during Lac-Thorn CBC. Many observers following my observation.**
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):

Clear sky with optimal midday sunlight. Sun angle fairly high. Backlighting or glare not problematic.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): **Zeiss Victory FL 8x42 (optics in good condition).**
11. Distance to bird(s): **within 15 meters**

12. Duration of observation: **~15 min.**

13. Habitat: **Heavily disturbed “bottomland hardwood forest”, early successional growth, yaupon-elderberry-baccharis thickets, willow-hackberry-tallow scrub, brushy edges, fallow fields, cultivated ag. fields, freshwater coulee, borrow pits, dense tangles, brush, roadside scrub, rural residential, etc.**

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):

First observed actively fly-catching from utility lines and higher perches of deciduous trees on south side of road. Observed in flight as it made brief forays out for prey, i.e. aerial arthropods, insects, etc. Eventually moving over to north side of roadway where it vocalized multiple times.

15. Description (include only what was actually seen, *not what "should" have been seen*; include if possible: total length/relative size compared to other familiar species, body bulk, shape, proportions, bill, eye, leg, and plumage characteristics. Stress features that separate it from similar species):

A large, yellow-bellied kingbird with olive-gray upperparts and gray head. Throat white, olive-yellow breast blending to bright, lemon yellow belly and undertail coverts. Dark mask on face. Dark brown wings and tail. Tail distinctly notched. Relatively heavy black bill. Body molt in juveniles complete by fall. Dark irides. Black tarsi and feet.

16. Voice: **Silent. A single, repeated ‘kip’ calls interspersed with slurred ‘queer’ call notes.**

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

Extremely distinctive yellow-bellied flycatcher separated from Tropical Kingbird (TRKI) by shorter, more compact bill, and vocalizations (voice-confirmed and sound recordings by R. Dobbs).

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): **Yes, digital mobile-phone photos by Devin Bosler.**

19. Previous experience with this species:

Extremely familiar with this species from their normal range and distribution in Texas. Plus, multiple individuals from six separate parishes in Louisiana over the years.

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):

a. at time of observation: **none**

b. after observation: **none**

21. This description is written from: Yes notes made during the observation (____ notes attached?); Yes notes made after the observation (date:____); Yes memory.

22. Are you positive of your identification if not, explain: **Yes, absolutely positive.**

23. Signature of reporter: **Devin Bosler** Date: **29 April 2021** Time: **1:00 AM CDT**

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? **Yes, please.**

If yes, may we include your name with the report? **Yes, please.**







