

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Yellow-rumped Warbler Audubon's X Myrtle (Setophaga coronata)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): One (1) adult male.
3. Parish:
St. Mary Parish
4. Specific Locality:
Cotten Road, Patterson (29.649908, -91.293392)
5. Date(s) when observed: 10/25/2023
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 5:28 PM
7. Reporting observer: LeeAnn Hepler
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
NA
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
Steve Cardiff
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Lighting was limited. Bird was positioned on the east side of the road. Sunset was at 6:19 PM, so the sun was very low in the west.
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon D7500 DSLR camera with 200-500mm telephoto lens.
12. Distance to bird(s): approximately 12 meters
13. Duration of observation: 2-5 minutes
14. Habitat: Scrubby, overgrown bushes and small trees.

15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Bird was moving from branch to branch in an investigatory manner, possibly looking for food.

16. 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):

The bird was similar in size to several common warblers (e.g. magnolia warbler, yellow-throated warbler, palm warbler, etc.). Initially, I observed patches of distinctive yellow on several key locations -- throat, underwings, crown, and rump. Aside from the yellow patches, the bird was overall, gray, black, and white with gray being the most dominate color.

There was also a relatively thick, white eyebrow; otherwise, the face was dark gray.

At first viewing, I believed it to be a YRWA Myrtle due to the yellow patches on the rump and underwing. The bird also had the distinctive gray, black, and white mottling on the body that is similar to the hundreds of other immature YRWA Myrtles I have seen in the past.

As my observation continued, I noted the yellow throat, which is similar to yellow-throated warblers I have observed in the past -- this is the feature that made me realize it was different than other YRWA Myrtles I have seen in the past.

17. Voice: NA

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Yellow markings on rump helped to eliminate most other warblers. Yellow throat, in conjunction with rump point towards Audubon's. The white eyebrow is a myrtle characteristic.

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):
Two photographs obtained by LeeAnn Hepler. Both attached.

20. Previous experience with this species: Five-plus years of experience with Myrtle. No prior Audubon's experience.

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

Merlin Bird ID mobile app, Audubon.org, Terrebonne Parish Bird Club Facebook group, eBird,

22. Identification aids used when?

At time of sighting, After observation

23. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain:

Yes.

24. Date report completed:

12/1/2023

25. May the LBRC have permission to display in whole or in part this report and accompanying photos on the LOS-LBRC website and LBRC Facebook page?

Yes

26. If yes, may we include your name with the report?

Yes



