

## LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Cassin's Kingbird - *Tyrannus vociferans*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
1 juvenile based on pale base to lower mandible
3. Parish:  
Plaquemines
4. Specific Locality:  
Diamond, across from the park
5. Date(s) when observed: 12/10/23
6. Time(s) of day when observed: late afternoon, around 4pm
7. Reporting observer: Esme Rosen
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):  
this bird was a stakeout seen erratically by many observers from the middle of November on. I'm submitting this report to provide evidence that it wintered at the site
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): excellent light
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss Binoculars
12. Distance to bird(s): 10-20 meters
13. Duration of observation: about 3 minutes
14. Habitat: Open field surrounded by trees and some houses, adjacent to the Mississippi river levee to the east and marsh to the west. This is a known roosting site for kingbirds
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): With a roosting flock of Western Kingbirds and Scissor-tailed Flycatchers. First seen atop a branch at the Brown-crested Flycatcher spot inside the park, but the bird quickly flew southeast across the road, where I relocated it, before it flew off even further, never to be seen again on this date, though others did see on later dates

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):

Kingbird with dark grey head and breast, back slightly greenish, with a distinct contrasting white throat. Most wing feathers with pale edgings. Tail square and brownish black, lacking a notable white edge. Bill short and pale-based on lower mandible. Eye black, with extremely indistinct orbital ring and perhaps some darker feathers around eye, but no contrasting black mask. Similar size to surrounding Western Kingbirds.

17. Voice: did not vocalize while I was here

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

Western Kingbird would be paler grey, with a completely black tail that has bright white outer feathers. The lighting was excellent, so the bird was not made to appear darker by that as some backlit kingbirds are; indeed, I saw this bird in direct comparison with Western Kingbirds and it was notable darker grey, with a noticeable throat patch, unlike any of the Westerns in that light. Tropical/Couch's eliminated by shape/structure, and Scissor-tailed by square tail, among other reasons

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):

One photo attached

20. Previous experience with this species: I've seen the species a handful of times in California, once in Montana, and once before in Louisiana at Bayou Manchac

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

none

22. Identification aids used when?

None used

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

yes

24. Date report completed:

1/9/23

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

