

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

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 individual, sex UNK, age UNK

3. Parish: Plaquemines

Specific Locality: Diamond (near abandoned playground)

4. Date(s) when observed: First observed by Ann Walters and Marcie Blanchard with poor photos October 29th, 2023. First re-sighted November 2nd, 2023.

5. Time(s) of day when observed: an hour to 40 minutes before sunset

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Chloe St. Germain-Vermillion

City: New Orleans

State: LA

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):

None

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):

Ann Walters and Marcie Blanchard, who had their pictures identified by David Muth and Daniel Lane. They first sighted the bird October 29th, 2023.

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): About 30-40 minutes before sunset, light dimming but not dark. Bird was illuminated from the west by the setting sun, while I was facing east so bird would not be backlit.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski binoculars (10X42 good condition) and Fujinon 150-600mm lens (new) on Fujifilm XT10 camera base (good condition).

11. Distance to bird(s): approximately 15 meters min when closest to 30 meters max when it was farthest away

12. Duration of observation: 30 minutes

13. Habitat: Forest edge

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Roosting with large flock of STFL on power lines and within oak trees. Seemed quite comfortable with the flock and would follow the group as it traveled around the area.

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, *or for species that are known to hybridize frequently, stress features that help eliminate possible hybrids*): Slightly larger and more substantial looking than WEKI side-by-side, with thicker bill. Head, breast and back slate gray color, with a bright contrasting white chin patch beneath bill. Darker gray than WEKI. Yellow belly. Tail dark without prominent white edging on outer rectrices, but with subtle whitish tips.

16. Voice: silent

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

Western Kingbird - Two individuals were present with CAKI. Much lighter gray than CAKI in head and breast, with contrasting white edging to outer rectrices on tail. Also slightly smaller in size, which was evident when one landed near CAKI (side-by-side photos taken.)

Tropical/Couch's Kingbird - CAKI slate gray on head, back, and breast, lacking greenish breast and back of Tropical or Couch's. CAKI also had blackish tail with subtle white tips, no brown in tail.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, photos taken by Chloe St. Germain-Vermillion

19. Previous experience with this species: No in-person sightings prior to this, though I did attempt to chase GI individual this year. Know bird from field guides and photos.

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

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation:

21. This description is written from:

notes made during the observation. Are notes attached?

X notes made after the observation. At what date? November 2nd, 2023 once I returned home.

X memory

X study of images

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

Yes, I am positive.

23. Date: November 2nd , 2023

Time: 10:30 PM

24. 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_____

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



