

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 or files as necessary. Please print or type for hard copy. For electronic copy, be sure to save this file to your computer before entering text. Attach field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed (if hard copy), mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216, or e-mail electronic copy as an attachment to Paul Edward Conover at <zoiseaux@lusfiber.net> .

1. English and Scientific names: Cassin's Sparrow (*Peucaea cassinii*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1
3. Parish: Cameron
Specific Locality: Beach side ditch of Sarasota Drive, east side ditch of Gulf View Drive, and SW corner of BRAS Peveto Woods Sanctuary
4. Date(s) when observed: 5 October 2023
5. Time(s) of day when observed: approx. 0850-0910 hours
6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Christopher G. Brantley
City: Mandeville
State: Louisiana
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Heydi Lopes, Pam Morgan
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): later same day by Jack Rogers and James Smithers
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Good
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski EL 10x42
11. Distance to bird(s): initially just a couple feet when flushed and about 25 feet away when perched

12. Duration of observation: A total of four short observations lasting only seconds, the first three consisting of short flights low to ground and final observation of bird perched in shrubs about 3-4 feet above the ground. Initially, bird flushed from short, thick beach dune vegetation growing in roadside ditch on south side of Sarasota Drive while our group was walking along road. Walked over to the bird's location and it then flew into the same type of vegetation growing in the ditch along the east side of Gulf View Drive just north of Sarasota Drive. Our group played various sparrow calls/songs getting no response from the bird. Finally, when a Lincoln's Sparrow song was played the bird went up to the top of the low-growing vegetation, dropping back down briefly before flying over to the south side of the Peveto Woods just east of Gulf View Drive. Was able to view the bird in the open for several seconds at a couple of different perches about 3-4 feet above the ground before it went low into the vegetation.

13. Habitat: Open beach scrub/dune

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Only observed for 3 short flights and for several seconds perched in thick brush/shrubs. Bird stayed concealed in short beach dune scrub.

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*): Small sparrow that had an overall brownish or tan color, some streaking on the crown, relatively small bill and pale, but noticeable eyering.

16. Voice: None noted.

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

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photos taken by Heydi Lopes during time of observation

19. Previous experience with this species: None

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

a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: Sibley Guide to Birds

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

23. Date: 6 October 2023

Time: 1159 hours

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 _____