

Louisiana Bird Records Committee

Rare Bird Documentation

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Species: Curve-billed Thrasher, *Toxostoma curvirostre*

Number of individuals: 1

Age and Sex: Unknown

Date: 11 April, 2018

Location: Longwood Dr., Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Par.

eBird Checklist: <https://ebird.org/checklist/S44465346>

Other Observers: None

Original Observer: Ronlyn Domingue

Circumstances. This documentation was created in November, 2020 since I did not submit a report after observing this bird. However, this documentation should extend the known date of the bird by several weeks.

After returning from an extended LSUMNS-sponsored trip to Indonesia, Oscar Johnson and I were keen to search for the long-staying Curve-billed Thrasher that had been publicized during our trip (though apparently it had been present for some time, unknown to the wider birding community). If I recall correctly (two and a half years later) there had been some reports on Facebook about the birds continuing presence, so we were hopeful. Oscar refound the bird before I arrived, and let me know that it was still present, though he had departed by the time I arrived to the area where it had been frequenting. After some time (~45 minutes) I was able to refind it and observe it foraging in some ornamental plants in someone's yard for several minutes.

Description. Any description beyond what I wrote in my eBird description (written at the time) would be based on the photos I took, since I am writing this well after my observation. From my eBird checklist:

"All gray-brown mimid, slightly browner wings, paler white-gray below with indistinct grayish spots on belly and lower breast. Very faintly paler tips to coverts. Bill rather long and decurved (more so than BRTH). Golden orange-yellow eye. Similar length to AMRO, but less chunky. Dark legs. Pale, unmarked throat. Slightly darker cheeks, darker malar. Totally silent. Observed for ~5 minutes as it foraged by flipping leaves in ornamental plantings in someone's front yard."

Discussion. This documentation will hopefully extend the known date of the Curve-billed Thrasher from 24 March (the last date accepted by the LBRC) to 11 April. Photos show the relatively heavily spotted breast of the eastern, nominate subspecies *T. c. curvirostre*, which would be the expected subspecies.

Photos. These photos also appear in my eBird checklist.

