

Louisiana Ornithological Society's
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 as necessary. Please print or type. Attach Xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. English and Scientific names:

Couch's Kingbird, *Tyrannus couchii*

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):

One, Adult

3. Locality: LOUISIANA: (parish) (specific locality)

Caddo Parish – Bickham – Dickson Park just west of boat launch at picnic kiosk adjacent to high power line transmission corridor.

4. Date(s) when observed:

January 13, 2015

5. Time(s) of day when observed:

3:15-3:25 PM CST.

6. Reporting observer and address:

Jay V. Huner
428 Hickory Hill Drive
Boyce, LA 71409

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

Tom Pollock and Jeff Trahan

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

Terry Davis, Paul Dickson, Rosemary Seidler, and many others.

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):

Later afternoon. No serious shadows. Light from front of bird.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):

Zeiss 10 x 42 binoculars, good condition.

11. Distance to bird(s):

About 75 yards.

12. Duration of Observation:

Approximately 10 minutes.

13. Habitat:

Riparian area adjacent to rural park lake system.

14. Behavior of bird/circumstances of observations (flying, feeding, resting; including and stress habits in identification: relate events surrounding observation):

Used BirdJam playback to attract bird. It came from flooded deciduous trees, appeared to be button brush along power line right of way. Flew along edge of water and landed several times on posts and snags. Seemed to be doing some fly catching and then flew back in the direction from which it came into the trees.

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):

Medium-sized songbird. Light Gray head and grayish back. Olive-yellow breast blending into bright yellow belly and undertail coverts.

16. Voice:

Did not hear vocalizations.

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

Most similar yellow-bellied kingbird is Tropical Kingbird. Bird responded directly to Couch's Kingbird playback and had been previously been documented by voice as Couch's Kingbird.

18. Photos/Recordings:

Photos by Tom Pollock. To be submitted.

19. Previous experience with this species:

I have seen Couch's Kingbird before in Louisiana and Texas.

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

- a. at time of observation: Sibley's Field Guide.
- b. after observation: National Geographic Field Guide.

21. This description is written from: notes made during the observation (notes attached?); notes made after the observation; memory.

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

01-13-2015. Bickham Dickson Park, Caddo Parish, LA 3:15-3:25 PM. Couch's Kingbird. Came to play back. Very gray above. Bright Yellow below. T. Pollock, J. Trahan, J. Huner.

23. Signature of reporter Jay V. Huner 02/06/2015 7:05 PM.