



## **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>](mailto:zoiseaux@lusfiber.net) .

1. English and Scientific names: Couch's kingbird Tyrannus couchii
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): two, sex unknown, age unknown
3. Parish: St. Tammany  
Specific Locality: Fontainebleau State Park, Mandeville, LA
4. Date(s) when observed: 12-02-16

5. Time(s) of day when observed: 10:15 AM
6. Reporting observer and address: Janine Robin 13083 Blackwell Lane Franklinton, LA 70438
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Claire Thomas
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Glenn Ousset, Van Remsen, Rene Sawyer, Tom Trenchard, Jody Shugart and others on the CBC field trip on 12-3-16.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): overcast, glarry sky. Difficulty with pictures since birds would perch atop bare trees or tall snags with glare in background.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Steiner binoculars 8x42 and Lumix Panasonic 25-600mm camera.
11. Distance to bird(s): between 60 feet and 25 feet depending on snag or tree height.
12. Duration of observation: one hour
13. Habitat: open area surrounded by pines and some hardwoods including large live oaks. Adjacent to Lake Pontchartrain.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Both birds were actively flying and catching insects. Observed them eating/chasing bugs. Also perched atop tall snags and would call and/or sing.
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*): There was a western kingbird there. They appeared to be same size. Couch's were a brighter yellow and covered more of the underparts with a whitish throat area. No white outer tail feathers as the Western had. The bill was thicker than the Western's also. Western has a gray mantle area, the Couch's that were seen had greenish mantle area. Also had a slightly notched tail. The
16. Voice: One or both vocalized, doing the "kip" and the "prrett". Was high pitched and sounded a bit nasally.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Call separated it from Tropical or Western. The plumage was obviously different than the Western (described above). Also the green mantle separates it from Western.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, by me and also by Claire Thomas. Mine are attached.

19. Previous experience with this species: Seen in southTexas long ago in 2001.

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):  
a. at time of observation: Claire Thomas, iBird Pro (for illustrations and playback) Van Remsen over a cell phone (played the audio recorded to him over the phone).

b. after observation: Reviewing photos on computer

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: 12-4-16  
Time: 8:40PM

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? \_\_\_\_\_yes\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, may we include your name with the report? \_\_yes\_\_\_\_\_