

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)

St. Tammany Parish – Single cabin area at Fountainbleau State Park.

4. Date(s) when observed:

January 29, 2017

5. Time(s) of day when observed:

1:50-2:15 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):

None

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

Glenn Ousset, Janine Robin, and many others. Stakeout bird.

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

Mid-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):

From 15 to 75 yards.

12. Duration of Observation:

Approximately 25 minutes.

13. Habitat:

Riparian area adjacent to cabin area of rural park on shore of Lake Ponchartrain. .

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. Flew about a bit and finally held for long period in leafless cypress tree about 40' tall. Bird was vocal responding with rapid "kip" calls from time to time in response to playback.

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 greenish-gray back. Olive-yellow breast blending into bright yellow belly and undertail coverts. Outer tail feathers greenish-gray.

15. Voice:

Rapid "kip" calls. Did not sing.

16. 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. There was a Western Kingbird in the area and was seen prior to arrival of the Couch's Kingbird. It had clearly seen white outer tail feathers.

17. Photos/Recordings:

Photo to be submitted.

18. Previous experience with this species:

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

19. 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.

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

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

Yes..

22. Signature of reporter Jay V. Huner 02/02/2017 8:00 PM.

