

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: Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus couchii*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1 adult bird; unknown sex; bright yellow breast, grey head, whitish throat, greenish wash on back, brownish wings and tail.
3. Parish: St. Mary Parish
Specific Locality: Berwick
4. Date(s) when observed: Friday, 2/4/2022, Saturday, 2/5/2022, Sunday, 2/6/2022
5. Time(s) of day when observed:
Friday, 2/4/2022 – 4:45 P.M.
Saturday, 2/5/2022 – 8:00 A.M.
Sunday, 2/6/2022 – 1:30 P.M.
6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: LeeAnn Hepler
City: Patterson
State: Louisiana
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): NA
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): Paul Schaub
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):
Friday, 2/4/2022 – 4:45 P.M.: Very overcast, rainy, and cold.
Saturday, 2/5/2022 – 8:00 A.M.: Bright, full sun. Bird perched in the sun and areas of dappled shade.
Sunday, 2/6/2022 – 1:30 P.M.: Bright, full sun. Bird perched in the sun.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon D7500 with 300-500mm lens.

11. Distance to bird(s): When initially observed, I was about 30 yards away. The bird came within feet of me at times, but for the majority of the time it was within 10 yards.
12. Duration of observation:
 - Friday, 2/4/2022 – 20-30 minutes
 - Saturday, 2/5/2022 – 15 minutes
 - Sunday, 2/6/2022 – 15 minutes
13. Habitat: Small, narrow body of water (bar pit) that runs NE to SW. NE side is surrounded by thick trees and foliage. SW side has sparse trees. A road runs along the SW edge and there is an open field across the road, opposite the body of water. The field has low grass and is surrounded by commercial/industrial buildings. The Kingbird did perch along the edges of the field at times.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):
 - Friday, 2/4/2022 – Bird was perched in a tree, on the opposite side of the body of water, approximately 15 feet up in a tree. It flew and made a large circle, landing in the same tree. The behavior is something I associate with flycatchers (flying out, catch a bug, circle back, and perch again). While trying to ID the bird, I played a recording of the Couch's Kingbird. The bird immediately, flew over me, circled back, and landed in a nearby tree. It responded to the playback. I recorded the COKI using my phone's voice memo app.
 - Saturday, 2/5/2022 – Paul Schaub was already present when I arrived. The bird was perched in a tree within 10 yards. Bird flew across the small body of water but returned shortly. Bird perched and called.
 - Sunday, 2/6/2022 – Bird was not visible. I used playback once. The COKI quickly appeared and landed within 10 yards and called.
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*):
 - Bird was larger than a mockingbird, stocky and vocal. The head was light gray. Throat was white. Breast was bright yellow. Bill was large and black. Back of bird was greenish. Wings and tail were brown.
16. Voice: I observed and recorded the "breer" call. It also used a shorter call occasionally.
17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Tropical Kingbird was eliminated by call.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):
I've attached pictures and audio to the accompanying email. These were all obtained by me.

19. Previous experience with this species: NONE

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

a. at time of observation: I used Merlin Bird ID app to narrow down the possibilities. I contacted Paul Schaub for advice and an opinion. He urged me to get a voice recording.

b. after observation: I submitted my finding to eBird.org for confirmation. I also posted on the Terrebonne Parish Bird Club Facebook page and the LOS Facebook page for further insight.

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 type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

23. Date: 02/07/2022 Time: 10:05 AM

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.





