

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 unknown age/sex \(presumably returning bird from previous winter\)](#)

3. Parish: [St. Mary](#)

Specific Locality: [River Rd., South of Berwick \(29.665424, -91.241778\)](#)

4. Date(s) when observed: [7 February 2023](#)

5. Time(s) of day when observed: [8:25am \(camera time stamp\)](#)

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Erik I. Johnson
City: Sunset
State: LA

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): [none](#)

8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): [I've lost track – I recall seeing posts about the bird on Facebook a couple weeks before I visited.](#)

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): [Heavy fog.](#)

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): [Vortex 10x42 Razor ED binoculars, Nikon D7200 with Sigma 150-600 mm f/4.5-6.3 lens. Recorded calls with Voice Recorder App with Samsung A52 smartphone \(no input gain boost\).](#)

11. Distance to bird(s): about 250 ft (measured on Google Maps)

12. Duration of observation: about 5 minutes

13. Habitat: Edge of swamp forest along waterway.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): I went specifically looking for the bird, familiar with the location as having seen it last winter. I searched up and down the waterway for about 20 minutes. After not seeing the bird initially, I gave a quick dawn song playback, and immediately heard the bird further down the bayou than I expected. I stopped the playback and saw the bird across the waterway, perched in tree. I never saw fly or switch perches. It proceeded to occasionally give a few calls here and there.

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*): Medium-sized flycatcher with bright yellow belly and chest, gray head, big black bill.

16. Voice: Gave a few “wheer” calls, “kip” calls, and even dawn song.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): From Western and Cassin’s by bigger bill, more yellow in chest, and by vocalizations. From Tropical Kingbird by vocalizations.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, included. Also audio recording included.

19. Previous experience with this species: Seen and heard a number of times in Louisiana and south coastal Texas, also in the Yucatan. Familiar with vocalizations to separate from Tropical Kingbird.

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

a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: none

21. This description is written from:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	https://ebird.org/checklist/S127807059
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: [Yes](#).

23. Date: [26 February 2023](#)

Time: [3:00 pm](#)

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](#)

