

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Tropical/Couch's Kingbird Tyrannus melancholicus/Tyrannus couchii
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 2 positive; there was possibly a 3rd bird but we did not see all three together; we would see two and then another bird would appear but the other two or one of the other ones was gone; but it seemed the "third" bird came from a different direction (can't answer the other questions)
3. Parish:
Orleans
4. Specific Locality:
Bayou Sauvage NWR--Pointe aux Herbes
5. Date(s) when observed: November 22, 2023
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 10:55 am
7. Reporting observer: Elizabeth Sigler
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Katherine Pyatt
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
David Muth, Joan Garvey, Mark Meunier, Tu Wren, Tommy Harold, Marcie Blanchard, Ann Walters, Peter Yaukey, Amy Stone; first observed on Sat. Nov 18 by David Muth. He heard vocalizations
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Birds were in direct full sunlight
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Binoculars 8 X 42 and Canon DSLR Camera 100-600mm Tamaron lens
12. Distance to bird(s): At one point they were almost directly above us on a utility wire; approximately 30' above us
13. Duration of observation: about 30 minutes
14. Habitat: Triangular patch of shrub and trees along the shores of Lake Pontchartrain right next to I-10 and Hwy 11 intersection; we were on the side of the vegetation that was away from the lakeshore
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): They would

either be perched on the wires or trees and sometimes interact with each other; seemed to fly off of tree branches to feed and return to same branch or wire

16. 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):

chunky kingbird with yellow belly; the yellow went up to the throat. White throat. Did not see outer white tail feathers like a Western Kingbird would have.

17. Voice: not vocalizing

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

Western Kingbird; yellow extended up to throat and no white outer tail feathers

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):

Elizabeth Sigler took the attached photos

20. Previous experience with this species: none

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

books and prior identification of other birders from a few days prior

22. Identification aids used when?

After observation

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

Yes based on photos

24. Date report completed:

11-24-2023

25. 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

26. If yes, may we include your name with the report?

Yes











