

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: Tropical/Couch's Kingbird
(*Tyrannus melancholicus*/*Tyrannus choichil*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):

1

3. Parish: Cameron
Specific Locality:
Peveto Woods, southeast quadrant in a tree a few feet in from the east side fence.

4. Date(s) when observed: May 18, 2020

5. Time(s) of day when observed: around 11 am.

6. Reporting observer and city/state address
Reporting observer: Dale Hamilton
City: Lake Charles
State: Louisiana

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
None.

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

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Clear skies, sun basically directly overhead; he was in right front of the tree, not in any shade; about 10 feet up.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
10 x 42 Vortex Diamondback

11. Distance to bird(s):
8-10 feet

12. Duration of observation: 2-3 minutes; he was in no rush to leave.
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13. Habitat: coastal Oak Trees and lower trees, fairly open spaces where I saw the bird.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):

Simply perched in tree, not moving, later flew off to the right.

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):

Separates it from other kingbirds: White throat blending into yellow-green upper breast on top of bright yellow lower breast. Slightly forked tail; when perched a thin white line was visible on leading edge of wings.

16. Voice: none heard

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

Had seen a western in Peveto Woods west side a 2-3 weeks before and previously in

NM, Denton, TX, San Antonio, and High Island.
a Cassin's at Fort Davis, TX in Aug 2018;

This Peveto sighting had an interesting green-yellow I had never seen before between the white throat on top and yellow beneath.

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

None.

19. Previous experience with this species:

I had seen a Couch's kingbird at Blucher Park in Corpus Christi in May of 2017, led by Audubon CC.

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

a. at time of observation:

none, just assumed it was a type of kingbird, but different from western.

b. after observation: in the car: NatGeo Birds of North America

21. This description is written from:

x notes made during the observation. Are notes attached? (no,
tossed after I got home.

