

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: **Fork-tailed Flycatcher, *Tyrannus savana***
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1 adult, sex unknown
3. Parish: **Plaquemines**
Specific Locality: **29.838056, -89.982840; Stella Plantation**
4. Date(s) when observed: **21 December 2017**
5. Time(s) of day when observed: **1:45 p.m.**
6. Reporting observer and address:
Christina Riehl, Princeton NJ
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):
Jennifer Coulson, Tom Coulson
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s):
Many others later viewed this bird on subsequent days and posted records and photos to eBird, including Matt Brady, Van Remsen, Glenn Ousset, Rosemary Seidler, Joan Garvey, James Beck, Joelle Finley, and many others. This was a very visible and easily located bird.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):
Bird perched in open (on power line) in partly cloudy conditions and good light
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
10x Golden Eagle binoculars in good condition
11. Distance to bird(s):
Less than 20 feet at closest.
12. Duration of observation:
About one hour
13. Habitat:
Open pasture with scattered shrubs, adjacent to young forest edge; roadside across from Mississippi River batture
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):
The bird was first seen perching on a telephone wire in proximity to several other flycatchers, including 3 Western Kingbirds and at least 3 Scissor-tailed Flycatchers. Tom Coulson first saw it without binoculars and said "check that flycatcher, it could be a fork-tailed," and indeed it was. It spent most of the hour perched on the power line and occasionally flying down into tall grass in the field or sallying out for an insect. It did not vocalize, but startled and flew down into the field when Jennifer

