

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Greater Pewee (*Contopus pertinax*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1
3. Parish:
Orleans
4. Specific Locality:
City Park - Scout Island - 30°00'02.7"N 90°05'40.7"W
5. Date(s) when observed: October 1, 2023
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 8:40AM
7. Reporting observer: John A. Keegan
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
none
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
none
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Sun
was rising to the ENE of my position and the birds aspect was generally with it's back to the sun, although it briefly turned to face me - then sallied out and returned with it's back to the sun again.
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss 10x40
12. Distance to bird(s): 15-20 yards, at most
13. Duration of observation: 2-5 minutes
14. Habitat: Mixed pine and oak forest with heavy growth of the understory.
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Bird was initially facing me then sallied out quickly and returned to the same spot with it's back to the sun. Bird did not call or make any noise. After the first sally out, it flew off to the SE in the direction of the pine grove.
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): Stocky flycatcher with no wing-bars (although the tiniest white edge to the feathers can be seen in the photos), a peaked crown and a large bi-color bill that looked orange for the mandible. Dark, ash

colored vest with a hint of yellow along a ventral line in my short observation. Bird was dark and the breast coloring I used to describe it was "Ash-like" but it was probably almost a sooty grey - like ashes from a fireplace. The vest wasn't so much streaked as uniformly grey with a bit of a line (not much of one). Initially (on first glance) I thought this was an EAWP but I noticed pretty immediately it seemed larger/rounder than those I had observed in the past and that it had no real wing-bars. The tail looked shorter than other Pewee/OSFL that I have seen. Additionally the peaked head seemed more peaked and the bill seemed noticeably larger than past EAWP observations.

17. Voice: None. The bird made no noise while I observed it.

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

Have never seen an EAWP without at least some kind of wing-bars, and nearly every one I've ever seen was longer, leaner and had a more lengthy tail; the bill looked much too large by comparison to the EAWP. Merlin Photo ID suggested OSFL for the majority of the photos of the bird, but I felt that was "off" the moment I saw it - most of the OSFL I had seen were darker and the vest was usually heavily streaked. I thought it might be an immature or molting bird but it was very different from EAWP I had seen before.

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

Yes, attaching several additional recovered from my recycle bin.

20. Previous experience with this species: Absolutely none.

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

McCauley/AllAboutBirds, communicated by phone/email with David Muth and Paul Conover who had inquired about it. Mr. Muth stated he felt conclusively NOT an OSFL and wanted to consult others.

22. Identification aids used when?

After observation

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

Not even remotely.

24. Date report completed:

10.06.23

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





























