

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: [Lesser Goldfinch \(*Spinus psaltria*\)](#)

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
[One, immature \(formative plumage\) male.](#)

3. Parish: [Acadia](#)

Specific Locality: [Hanson residence, 2.4 mi SSE of Crowley, LA](#)

4. Date(s) when observed: [28 January 2025](#)

5. Time(s) of day when observed: [8:00 am](#)

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): [Claire and Tom Hanson were with me.](#)

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): [Seems like many active LA birders have gone to see this bird. I was the 27th visitor according to Claire and Tom.](#)

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): [Overcast, 5-10 mph winds.](#)

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): [Vortex Razor 10x42 ED binoculars, Nikon D7200 with Sigma 150-600 mm f/4.5-6.3 lens, both in good condition.](#)

11. Distance to bird(s): About 50-100 feet away.
12. Duration of observation: About 1 minute. On and off for about 30 minutes as it visited the feeding station, offering many extended looks.
13. Habitat: Rural yard, surrounded by ag.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):
Mixed with American Goldfinches and other feeder birds. Perched in the trees, shrubs, ground, and on feeders, and flying back and forth between perches and feeding stations.
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*):
Popped as brighter yellow than the adjacent American Goldfinches, and most of this color was in the underparts (throat to vent). It had a black cap that blended at the rear of the crown into an olive nape and back. Had two wing bars (tips of greater and median) coverts along with a small white patch at the base of the inner primaries.
- Molt limits within the greater covers (inner 4ish replaced) indicates this is a 1st winter (formative plumage) bird.
16. Voice: Not heard.
17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Most like American Goldfinch, but white primary patch, shape of crown (for late Jan), and yellow pattern all consistent with Lesser over American.
18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photos by me, attached.
19. Previous experience with this species: First time seen in Louisiana. I've seen out west several times, most recently in May 2021.
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 type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: **Yes.**

23. Date: **22 February 2025**

Time: **10:05 am**

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**





