

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: sage thrasher/Oreoscoptes montanus
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1, sex unknown, age unknown
3. Parish:
St. Tammany
4. Specific Locality:
Tchefuncte River mouth (T Rivers Bar parking lots)
5. Date(s) when observed: October 26, 2023
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 7:57am
7. Reporting observer: Shae Freeman
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Matthew Dell arrived and hour after I was there, then others showed up as well
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
It's a long list- Lachlan Bebout, Claire Thomas were the first to find it
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Full sun
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon Monarch 7 8x42 binos; camera Nikon D5100 w/ a Nikon 300-500mm telephoto lens
12. Distance to bird(s): 10' and less
13. Duration of observation: 30 minutes solo, then another 30 when other observers arrived, total 2 hours in the area
14. Habitat: Gravel parking lots
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Bird seemed to be casually foraging for food in two gravel lots, split by the road. Did not seem

skittish in the least. I stayed in the relative same spot and bird approached, ran around going about it's business.

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):

Size and shape of a typical thrush/thrasher, but smaller than a BRTH. Long tail, wing bars, all gray upper parts with wing bars, golden brown eyes, cream colored belly with grayish brown streaking/spotting down front of chest and down the sides to legs. Dark decurved thrasher bill.

17. Voice: Did not vocalize

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

Brown thrasher- completely lacking characteristic rusty brown shades of brown thrasher. Seemed somewhat smaller as well, with a less piercing gaze. Inquisitive but not as shy as BRTH. Superficially similar to a hermit thrush, but again it was grayish and not brown. Also wing bars and type of spots on chest distinguish it from a thrush. Tail and wings longer than a thrush as well.

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

Photographs, lots, by me personally, attached

20. Previous experience with this species: None (well acquainted with brown thrashers)

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

Merlin app, rare bird alerts on eBird, other birders. I knew the bird was present at this location and came specifically to see it.

22. Identification aids used when?

At time of sighting, After observation

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

Yes.

24. Date report completed:

12/31/23

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







