

# LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

## REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: Spotted Towhee *Pipilo maculatus*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
One female
3. Locality: Vermilion Parish  
Specific Locality: Pecan Island; Hwy 82 near Front Ridge Road intersection
4. Date(s) when observed: 01/13/2019
5. Time(s) of day when observed: ca. 2 pm
6. Reporting observer and address: Paul Conover, Lafayette, LA
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Phillip Wallace
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):  
Sunny, good light angle
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss 10s, Nikon D3300 with 200 mm lens
11. Distance to bird(s): 20-50 yards
12. Duration of observation: Ca. 10 minutes
13. Habitat: small woodlot with bare deciduous trees (hackberry?) and scattered live oaks with a fronting roadside strip of lantana and grasses
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation: responded to screech owl tape; sat up and eventually approached us.
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):  
"Rufous-sided" towhee with dorsal color fairly rich dark brown, not approaching black. Wings with large whitish spots forming two wingbars, roundish white tips to scapulars and mantle forming rows of white spots. White line along outer primaries. Red eye.



16. Voice: Don't recall if it called.

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

Eastern Towhee without dorsal spots, has white slash at base of outer primaries.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photos by Conover and Wallace

19. Previous experience with this species: Some in Louisiana, pretty extensive in bursts in western trips.

20. This description is written from memory and photos

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

22. Date: 1/25/2019

