

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):
2, female
3. Locality: Cameron Parish
Specific Locality: Grand Chenier, 5717 Hwy 82 (abandoned house)
4. Date(s) when observed: 01/21/2019
5. Time(s) of day when observed: ca. 12 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):
In shade and sun, sufficient for study of details
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss 10s, Nikon D3300 with 200 mm lens
11. Distance to bird(s): 10-50 yards
12. Duration of observation: Ca. 45 minutes
13. Habitat: Overgrown wooded lawn of abandoned home with brushy/woody treeline along road
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation: responded to screech owl tape
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" towhees with pronounced spotting and white in primaries not as in Eastern Towhee. One bird a seemingly obvious male with black/blackish tones to head and upperparts. The other with brownish or charcoal tones to upperpart plumage; female or perhaps young male.

Both birds showed large round white spots to upperwing coverts forming two wingbars, a mantle V formed by white spots, and a series of longitudinal white stripes formed by spots on the saddle. Both birds with eyes that were red at least in certain light angles. Both birds with extensive white tips to rects which were visible.
16. Voice: Both called repeatedly; calls single, long, plaintive with a catlike, whining quality.

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, video with call by Conover

19. Previous experience with this species: Fairly wide experience

20. This description is written from memory and photos/video

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

22. Date: 1/26/2019

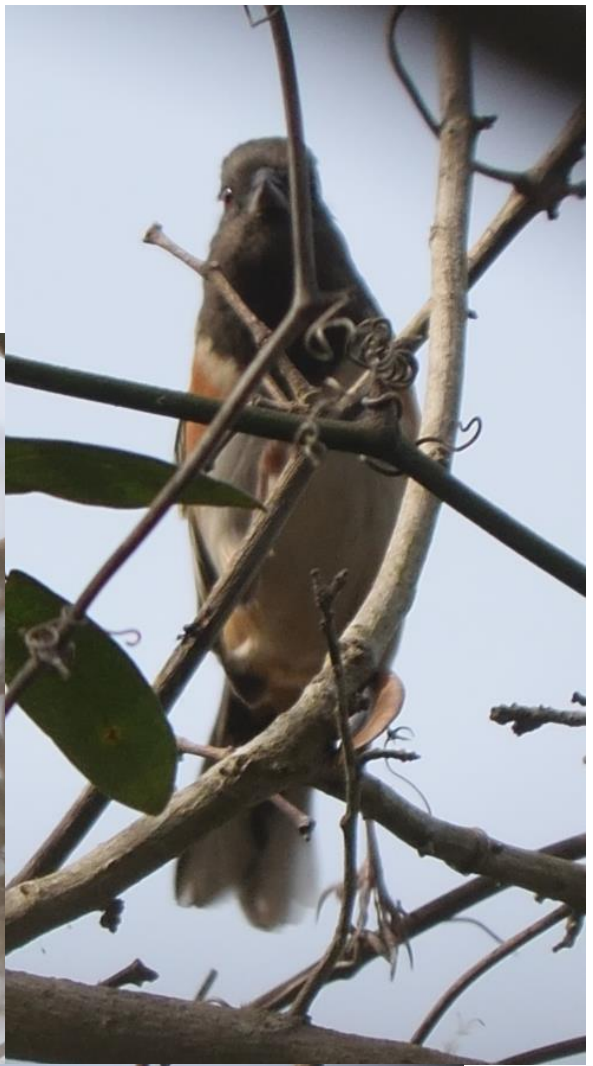
Bird 1











Bird 2



