

## LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Tropical/Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus/couchii*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
1 adult
3. Parish:  
Cameron Parish
4. Specific Locality:  
West side of Cameron Ferry (29.8038,-93.3504)
5. Date(s) when observed: 9/21/2024
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 1:11pm
7. Reporting observer: James Smithers
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):  
Carson Lambert, Debbi Logan, Jon Wise, Becky Amedee, Michelle Giroir, Lawrence Datnoff, and Randy Frederick
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Bird was on a power line in direct sunlight
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Leica 8 x 42 binoculars and Olympus OM-1 Camera with 420mm focal length
12. Distance to bird(s): 20 ft
13. Duration of observation: 10 minutes
14. Habitat: coastal marsh just along the Calcasieu ship channel
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Bird was silently perched on the powerlines throughout the whole observation
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):

large yellow-bellied Kingbird with bright yellow belly and somewhat dingy yellow chest; long slender bill more consistent with Tropical Kingbird; pale throat and slightly contrasting dark mask against overall gray head.

17. Voice: No vocalizations

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

Other yellow-bellied Kingbirds like Western and Cassin's eliminated by extensive yellow coloration on underparts and bill size

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

Photos by myself

20. Previous experience with this species: A few observations in South Texas and New Mexico

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

Macaulay Library and briefly spoke with Cin Ty-Lee

22. Identification aids used when?

After observation

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

I am positive that it is a Tropical/Couch's, and I feel the bird better represents a Tropical Kingbird. But without vocalization to confirm I am leaving it as Tropical/Couch's

24. Date report completed:

12/15/2024

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



