

## 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>](mailto:zoiseaux@lusfiber.net) .

1. English and Scientific names: **Tropical Kingbird, *Tyrannus melancholicus***
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): **1**
3. Parish: **Orleans**  
  
Specific Locality: **Eastover, Lake Forest Blvd. at I-510 Service Rd.**
4. Date(s) when observed: **Jan. 2 and March 13, 2016**
5. Time(s) of day when observed: **1430 h and 1015 h**
6. Reporting observer and address: **David P. Muth, 2765 Orchid St., New Orleans, LA 70119**
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): **3-13-16 Phillip Wallace and Dan Purrington**
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): **Bird was first found by Joelle Finley and Ken Harris during the New Orleans CBC Dec. 26, 2015. It did not vocalize then and proved elusive when I and others went in search of it. However, on Jan. 2 2016 they re-found the bird and it vocalized, giving typical TRKI rolling trill calls. I found it later that day but it was silent and I got no photos. Many others have reported it since.**
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): **Overcast Jan. 2; sunny March 13.**
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): **Eagle Optic Platinum series, 10x; Canon Powershot SX 50**
11. Distance to bird(s): **within 100 feet**
12. Duration of observation: **Jan. 2 = < 1 min; > March 13 = 10 min. or so.**

13. Habitat: **Former (pre-Katrina) golf course sub-division, now overgrown with low to high grasses and herbaceous cover, scattered trees, including clumps of volunteer saplings and small woodlots shaping the edges of former fairways, interspersed with ponds with marshy edges and emergent vegetation.**

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): **Perching on exposed branches, a fence, flying good distances between perches, and (March 13) sallying and capturing prey; interacting with STFL which was dominant and chased it from airspace and perches (but it did not retreat very far and challenged more than once, including successfully snatching prey (bumblebee?) near the STFL).**

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*):

**A yellow-bellied kingbird with a gray head, dark mask; yellow belly and gray-green upper breast; white throat; gray back with green overtones, black-brown wings (flight feathers and coverts narrowly edged white); black-brown tail shallowly forked, no white on outer vanes; robust (but not huge as in some TRKI) black bill. Photo (below) shows tail feather growing in. On Jan. 2 I described tail as "worn".**

<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S26625516>

<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S28153159>

16. Voice: **A high pitched, not very loud, rolling twitter, only given two or three times March 13. Not heard Jan. 2.**

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): **Couch's Kingbird by voice.**

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): **yes by me below Mar. 13, 2016. Others will doubtless have better photos.**



19. Previous experience with this species: **A couple in Louisiana; many, many in Mexico and Central America.**

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

a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: none Date:

21. This description is written from:

a. Field notes:

b. Notes made after observation: **in Ebird Jan. 2.**

c. Examination of photos/videos: yes

d. Memory: yes

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

23. Date: **03/14/16**

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? yes

If yes, may we include your name with the report? yes