

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> .

1. English and Scientific names: Tropical/Couches Kingbird (Tyrannus sp).
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): Observed 1 bird. Yellow belly and dark head and back was about all I saw through binoculars. ID made after reviewing attached photo.

3. Parish: Orleans

Specific Locality: in the batture at The Fly (park between Audubon Zoo & the river)

4. Date(s) when observed: Oct 10, 2023

5. Time(s) of day when observed: 8:57 AM (camera time stamp)

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Rob Heffner
City: New Orleans
State: LA

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): none

8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): none

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): bird was in the top of a tree facing the sun on a clear morning

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10x40 binoculars and Nikon Coolpix P950 camera

11. Distance to bird(s): approx. 150 ft.

12. Duration of observation: 15 sec (Just long enough to get a crappy picture)

13. Habitat: In this area the batture is dominated by Black Willow. Adjacent area is park of roads, parking, athletic fields and shade trees (mostly Live Oaks).

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Flycatcher behavior: perched, flew out (and out of sight) but returned to perch after 5-10 seconds. It flew again after a 10-15 seconds and didn't return.

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*): Struck me as slightly larger and heavier than Great Crested Flycatcher. Otherwise just caught glimpse of yellow and dark eye stripe. To be honest, I didn't know what I saw until I got home, reviewed the photo and looked through Sibley's.

16. Voice: didn't vocalize

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Tropical/Couches are very similar, hence recording the observation as such. Lacked boldness of Great Kiskadee.

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

19. Previous experience with this species: Very limited. I have one recorded sighting from 2006. The record is from a legacy listing program that I no longer have so I don't have much more info. I believe the sighting was made on Grand Isle. The ID was made by a friend who is an expert and published birder from Ontario, Canada.

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

Sibley's Guide to Birds, and the apps Merlin, and iBirdPro.

a. at time of observation: The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of the Eastern North America

b. after observation: The Sibley Guide to Birds, and the apps Merlin, and iBirdPro.

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: Feel comfortable with ID as

Topical/Couch's Kingbird. I'm not comfortable getting to one or the other.

I'm submitting this at the request of Steven Cardiff who reviewed the record and photo in eBird.

23. Date: Oct. 13, 2023

Time: 12:30

24. 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_____

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

