

# LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

## REPORT FORM

**English and Scientific names:** Tropical Kingbird, *Tyrannus melancholicus* 1 or 2.

(Because the sightings involve two closely associating birds, and I have only seen and heard one calling, I conservatively listed them in Ebird as 1 TRKI and 1 Tropical/Couch's Kingbird, *Tyrannus melancholicus/couchii*. Inasmuch as I have photos of both birds, but no way to know which bird in the photos is the calling Tropical, it seems pointless to try to do two separate reports. Indeed, it seems highly likely that two TRKI are involved.)

**Location:** Bayou Sauvage NWR, variously along road from Crabbing Bridge to Pointe aux Herbes, Orleans Parish, La.

**Dates:** Nov. 18, 2023—January 16, 2024

**Reporting observer and city/state address**

David P. Muth  
2765 Orchid St.  
New Orleans, LA 70119  
muthdp@gmail.com

**Other observer(s) with:** None on 11/18, though others from OAS field trip found it shortly after my departure; John Nelson on 1/16/24.,

**Original Observers:** Muth

**My Sightings:** Nov. 18, 2023 <https://ebird.org/checklist/S154709978>  
Jan. 16, 2024 <https://ebird.org/checklist/S159093721>

**Details:** Two interacting yellow-bellied kingbirds; extensive bright yellow below, blending into greener, not gray, breast; pale throat, gray heads with darker mask; green backs, darker wings with pale edging on secondaries and in coverts; tail dark brown, forked. Bill black, long and wide.

**Voice:** A high pitched, insistent twittering given by at least one bird during interactions on 11/18/23.

**Discussion:** At least one Tropical Kingbird has been regular in several of the past few winters in this general area (from South Point to Pointe aux Herbes) along Lake Pontchartrain in Bayou Sauvage NWR. On both occasions this season these two birds were associating closely and interacting—on Jan. 16 after a hard freeze.

Photos Nov. 18, 2023:







11/18/23

Photos Jan. 16, 2024







January 16, 2024

**Date of report:** March 4, 2024

**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