

## LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Tropical Kingbird, *Tyrannus melancholicus*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
1 (but it is possible there were more - I had observed at LEAST one multiple times in the time I spent there -- there were multiple kingbirds flycatching from different perches in the same space)
3. Parish:  
Plaquemines
4. Specific Locality:  
Diamond, LA
5. Date(s) when observed: 11/17/24
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 9:45AM
7. Reporting observer: John A. Keegan
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):  
None
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):  
Michael Musumeche, Cheryl Huner
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Overcast with some breaks in the clouds allowing for slightly better pictures.
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10x binoculars, 600mm camera lens
12. Distance to bird(s): 60ft
13. Duration of observation: 10-15 minutes, but several observations from different positions; it is possible there was more than one TRKI in the area.
14. Habitat: Chain link fence, electrical wires, tops of oak trees. There are a lot of open spaces in the area edged/ringed by trees, fences and power lines with good perches for flycatching.
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Flycatching - sallying out for bugs and then returning to the same position. At one point a pair of CAKI appeared to chase the TRKI away.

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 kingbird with bright lemony yellow belly with yellow all the way up to the throat. Dark stripe through the eye with a dark patch behind the eye, thick heavy bill with pale white throat. Head was light gray (and very distinct from the two nearby CAKI which had much darker gray heads). Bill appeared to have a 'vireo-like' hook at the end. Crown was angular and not very rounded. Primaries appeared to have pale edges review of the photos I took confirmed.

17. Voice: No vocalizations while I was present.

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

Very distinct from the (also present) CAKI and WEKI. I don't think this is a COKI because the bill seemed very large compared to the other kingbirds nearby.

<https://ebird.org/checklist/S202801926>

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

Photos (attached) - <https://ebird.org/checklist/S202801926>

20. Previous experience with this species: Very minimal. I believe I saw a TRKI/COKI candidate last year but it was much more ambiguous. This bird clearly had a larger bill and a strongly forked tail and seemed to fit the description of the Tropical that I have read/reviewed online much better.

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

CLO website, online reference, field guides.

22. Identification aids used when?

After observation

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

Fairly confident but not certain.

24. Date report completed:

11/18/24

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









