

## 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, Adult, sex unknown
3. Parish:  
Vermilion
4. Specific Locality:  
29.553074539184358, -92.3070170673883. Freshwater City Road near Army Corp complex
5. Date(s) when observed: 9/28/2024
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 1:28pm
7. Reporting observer: Patricia Rosel
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):  
Scott France
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):  
Brad Moon
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):  
Bird was in full sun, but slightly backlit
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski 10x40, Canon camera with telephoto lens
12. Distance to bird(s): 25 feet
13. Duration of observation: about 10-15 minutes
14. Habitat: open marsh scrub
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Bird was

flycatching from taller snag in the marsh scrub. Caught and ate at least one wasp and a dragonfly (common green darner) while we were there.

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):

Largish kingbird; at first we thought it was a western as one had been reported earlier from the area but upon closer look it had no white outer tail feathers and the bill seemed bulkier. Bright yellow under tail and up lower belly turning dirty/greenish yellow at upper breast. Was not sure it was tropical or Couch's until it vocalized briefly a few times.

17. Voice: Made twittering tropical kingbird sound a few times, allowing separation from Couch's kingbird.

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):  
see 16

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):  
Photos uploaded, no audio.

20. Previous experience with this species: Have seen a couple Tropical/Couch's here in south LA and quite a few in south Texas but have always relied on vocalizations to ID to species

21. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):  
National Geographic bird guide and Sibley 2nd edition Guide to Birds app

22. Identification aids used when?  
After observation

23. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain:  
Yes, given vocalization feel confident it was a Tropical rather than Couch's kingbird

24. Date report completed:  
10/5/2024

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



