

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: Vaux's Swift (*Chaetura vauxi*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
At least 3 birds of unknown age and sex.

3. Parish: East Baton Rouge
Specific Locality: River Bend/Farr Park

4. Date(s) when observed: 9 April 2019

5. Time(s) of day when observed: 12:15pm

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Daniel Lane
City: Baton Rouge
State: LA

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Markie Mutchler, Van Remsen, Michelle McLindon.

8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): none that I know of.

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): clear mid-day sky.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss 10x40.

11. Distance to bird(s): flying overhead from about 25-60m or so above us.

12. Duration of observation: Off and on for about 10 min.

13. Habitat: well-wooded suburb with a pond, park and equestrian center nearby.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):

Flying with Chimney Swifts, giving very rapid wingbeats, little gliding. Vocalizing regularly (which was what drew our attention to them initially). They would disappear off to SE of us regularly, then come back into view at varying altitudes. This, and their erratic flight, made photography difficult. Participated in chases (monospecific, as far as we could tell), when they were most vocal.

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*):

Chaetura swifts that we could compare directly to Chimney Swifts, differing in narrow, shortish wings (resulting in very rapid wingbeats), rumps distinctly paler than dorsum, paler throat and underparts only apparent when banking. No “bulge” on inner primaries as is typical with Chimney Swift.

16. Voice: The character that first drew our attention. A dry, rapid “tititi-treeee-treeeeeeee-treeeeeeee”. Recorded by Markie Mutchler.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Direct comparison with Chimney Swift (see description). Other Chaeturas have different voices, blacker and grayer rather than ashy brownish.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, Markie Mutchler got photos and recording, posted to eBird list:
<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S54766162>

19. Previous experience with this species: Fairly extensive, both in usual range (western US and Mexico), as well as in Baton Rouge previously.

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

a. at time of observation: None.

b. after observation: None.

21. This description is written from:

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

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

23. Date: 23 April 2019

Time: 3:15pm

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 _____