

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Western Flycatcher - *Empidonax difficilis*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1 presumed adult
3. Parish:
Plaquemines
4. Specific Locality:
Morel's Woods
5. Date(s) when observed: 11/8/24
6. Time(s) of day when observed: late morning
7. Reporting observer: Esme Rosen
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Nick Ramsey, Libby Brennan, Kraig Oramous, Caleb Persia
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
Van Remsen, David Muth

This bird is presumed to be the same individual the I submitted to the LBRC on October 12th of this year after undergoing extensive molt. It was refound by Van, David, and Nick Ramsey a few days prior. Nick suggested that this bird could be a returning bird from last year, which I also submitted to the LBRC

10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): dark but good light
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon Binoculars
12. Distance to bird(s): extremely close, only a few meters, and the bird was very low to the ground
13. Duration of observation: 10-15 minutes - bird was extremely cooperative
14. Habitat: oak lot situated between Bay Pomme D'Or and the lower Mississippi river, containing numerous old oaks

15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): foraging near ground, mostly perched, flew around some

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):

Empidonax with overall greenish coloration and lemma yellow belly, moderate length bill with orange base, bold tear drop shaped eye ring, buffy wing bars, medium short primary projection, slight crest

17. Voice: did not vocalize

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): the very unlikely Acadian or Yellow-bellied can be eliminated by the structure and the tear drop shaped eye ring

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

photos attached; additional photos by Nick Ramsey here:

<https://ebird.org/checklist/S201818693>

20. Previous experience with this species: I have seen the species many times in the west and two times in Louisiana

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

none

22. Identification aids used when?

None used

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

yes

24. Date report completed:

11/22/24

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



