

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

1. English and scientific Names:

Western Wood-Pewee, *Contopus sordidulus*

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):

1 bird, appeared to be adult, sex unknown.

3. Locality: (Parish)

Cameron Parish, Louisiana – Baton Rouge Audubon Society Peveto Woods Sanctuary.

4. Date(s) when observed:

10/26/2019

5. Time(s) of day when observed:

Approximately 11:00 AM CDST.

6. Reporting observer and address:

Jay V. Huner
428 Hickory Hill Drive
Boyce, LA 71409

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):

Michael Musumeche and Kevin Leigh.

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):

None

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):

Bird in subdued light in heavy cover.

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

Zeiss Conquest HD 10 x 42 Binoculars – good condition.

11. Distance to bird(s):

Approximately 20 feet.

12. Duration of observation:

Approximately 5 minutes.

13. Habitat:

Coastal chenier.

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

The bird was perched on a small diameter, vertical tree sapling in heavy cover on the western side of the entrance road to Peveto Woods approximately even with the main parking area. The bird made several sallies from the perch, presumably seeking insects, and returned to the same perch.

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):

See eBird description posted below.

16. Voice

See eBird description posted below.

17. Other species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

The most likely species to confuse with Western Wood-Pewee is Eastern Wood-Pewee. The birds are very similar in appearance. However, this bird was heard to give the strong Peee call characteristic of the species and not the Peee Weee call of Eastern Wood-Pewee. It also noticeably reacted to playback of Western Wood-Pewee song. That is why the three of us are satisfied that the bird was a Western Wood-Pewee.

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

Three images will be submitted with this form. They were taken by myself.

19. Previous experience with this species:

I have recorded Western Wood-Pewee twice previously in Louisiana. I have seen and heard the bird several times on separate birding trips to southern Arizona.

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

National Geographic Field Guide, Peterson Field Guide, and Sibley Field Guide. National Audubon Society and IBirdPro bird identification apps on I-phone.

21. This description is written from: _____ notes made during the observation (_____ notes attached?): _____x_____ made after the observation (date: 06/26/2018); _____x_____ memory.

Here is the description provided for my ebird report:

Western Wood-Pewee Report

Jay V. Huner

On 10/26/19, Mike Musumeche and Kevin Leigh and I were walking on a trail on the west side of Peveto Woods Sanctuary, Cameron Parish, in the Johnson's Bayou, Louisiana area around 11:00 AM CDST. The trail was in heavy cover immediately west of the entrance road to the sanctuary. We had encountered few birds in the area. I heard a very distinct, loud Pee call given at roughly 2 second intervals. We saw movement and saw a "pewee" on a small diameter, vertical tree trunk 15 feet above ground level. Musumeche started taking pictures of the bird suggesting that, perhaps, it was a Western Wood-Pewee based on the dark nature of its breast and its bicolor bill. I played IBirdPro Western Wood-Pewee and the first of two options sounded exactly like the Pee call. I distinctly heard the Pee call being given. Leigh, I believe, noted that the bird started rubbing its wing in apparent response to the playback. I subsequently played Eastern Wood-Pewee. The bird did not respond to the Pee a Weee call. We watched the bird for at least 5 minutes. It did not flick its tail during our observations, a characteristic associated with other empids but not pewees.

22. Are you positive of you identification if not, explain:

Yes

23. Signature of reporter: _____ signed _____ Date and Time: 11/11/2019 // 9:10 PM.

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_____





