

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: Yellow-green Vireo (*Vireo flavoviridis*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1, "adult" male
3. Parish: Jefferson Parish
Specific Locality: Admiral Craik Rd., Grand Isle, about 0.2 mi W of Grand Isle State Park entrance.
4. Date(s) when observed: 5 June 2015
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 9:45am
6. Reporting observer and address: Erik I. Johnson, 102 Goodwood Cir., Lafayette, LA 70508
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): none
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Many seen and heard a YGVI at this site after me (as reported on LABird) – Delaina LeBlanc, Jed Pitre, and Casey Wright were able to relocate it later on the same day, followed by others.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): sunny, mid-morning light looking south/southeast from road into shaded persimmon grove, thus the light was a little harsh
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10 x 42 Swarovski EL binoculars
11. Distance to bird(s): 30 ft at the closest

12. Duration of observation: about 10 minutes

13. Habitat: coastal scrub/persimmon grove

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Bird was initially heard singing as I was driving by slowly with the windows down. I immediately took a recording with my smart phone, but the bird was not visible. I tried confirming the song against xeno-canto recordings of Yellow-green Vireo versus Black-whiskered Vireo, and immediately it was clear that it was most similar to Yellow-green Vireo. I started a pygmy owl impression and the bird came into view to investigate, continuing to sing as it flitted from branch to branch. Rather active for a vireo, almost constantly on the move.

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*): When the bird came into view, it was obviously an “eye-lined” vireo type bird, but was notably yellow underneath and along sides of neck extending into auriculars. The throat and upper chest was paler whitish. The face didn’t have the “angry” look of Red-eyed Vireo, but was a washed out version of the same pattern with a darkish eye-line and paler whitish supercilium. The crown and crown edging wasn’t terribly contrasting against the supercilium or nape. The iris appeared darkish, but was not seen well. The bill was large, pale gray, and with a notable hook at the end, but not as large as in Black-whiskered Vireo – more within the realm of Red-eyed Vireo. I didn’t see the back well, but it appeared brighter yellowish olive than a Red-eyed Vireo. All in all, there was no real reason to question it being a Yellow-green Vireo. I only saw the bird in view for a total of about 1 minute, in short 5-10 second intervals as it flitted from branch to branch and then back into the scrub.

16. Voice: Notably House Sparrow-like, but with a vireo twist. Repetitive and constant, with single “chirp” or “chil-erp” type notes spaced at even intervals of about 1 note per second with occasional longer pauses. Singing essentially the entire time we watched the bird and continuing so after we left.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Black-whiskered Vireo song different with “rolling” series of notes. Also lacked “whiskers” and was way too yellow underneath. Red-eyed Vireo (nominant race) more similar in song to Yellow-green Vireo than BW Vireo, but more musical. Also RE Vireo is not as bright yellow underneath. Red-eyed “Chivi” Vireo was considered and Amazonian non-migratory birds approach Yellow-green Vireo in plumage, some races being somewhat yellowish and brighter rather than drab and olive, but song a bit different, still being too musical for this. The likelihood of a resident Amazonian race showing up in south LA is

a super long-shot. Austral migrant Red-eyed “Chivi” Vireo (perhaps somewhat possible?) seem to look more like nominate Red-eyed Vireos and have songs more similar to nominate form as well, being more musical.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): No photographs obtained as I didn't have my camera with me. I did get an audio recording.

19. Previous experience with this species: Seen a couple times now in LA and one-heard only bird last summer. I had just listened to a recording obtained by M. Seymour within the last week presumed to be a YG Vireo at Pass a Loutre.

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

a. at time of observation: Xeno-canto

b. after observation: Xeno-canto, Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive

21. This description is written from:

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

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

23. Date: 11 June 2015

Time: 6:40 pm

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? Yes

If yes, may we include your name with the report? Yes