

Louisiana Ornithological Society's
LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Rare Bird 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 ensure that all information involving an observation is accounted for). Attach additional pages as necessary. Please print or type. Attach fieldnotes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. English and Scientific names:
Sage Thrasher
2. Number of individuals, age, sex, general plumage (e. g., "2 adult males in alternate <breeding> plumage"): *1*
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: *Cameron*
(parish)
Equinox Oil Field at Johnson's Bayou (The Secret Place)
(specific locality)
4. Date(s) when observed:
10-27-01
5. Time(s) of day when observed:
Noon
6. Reporting observer and address:
Beth H. Willis
P.O. Box 873
Jena, La 71342
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Lyndel Willis, Lois Rodgers
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
Dr. Marty Guidry + LDS party
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): *Clear, sunny day*
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
Close enough to observe with naked eye; Nikon 8X40
11. Distance to bird(s):
3' to 15'
12. Duration of observation:
20 minutes

13. Habitat: *Acacia/scrub oak and Restiaveland* - in a salt marshy plant
14. Behavior of bird/circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting, include and stress habits used in identification, relate events surrounding the observation):
Bird was observed feeding in a low bush! Nocturnal! 3 observers + 1.05 partly approx. 20-25
15. Description (include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen; if possible, give details on 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. Attach additional pages as necessary):
*Eye - looked like a brown thrasher's eye
 Tail - much shorter than brown thrasher -
 Bill - shorter & not decurved like a brown thrasher
 streaks were brown on a tan background;
 Back was solid color - grayish brown - not gray; not a rich brown -
 Body shape was similar to a brown thrasher*

16. Voice: *Silent*
17. Similar species (and how are they eliminated by your description?):
Brown thrasher - tail longer, bill longer & decurved
18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):
Digital photo made by Lyndel Willis - Attached
19. Previous experience with this species:
NONE
20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):
*a. at time of observation:
 NATH Geographic 99 Edition; other birders corroborated the ID
 b. after observation:*

21. This description is written from: _____ notes made during the observation; _____ notes made after the observation (date: *10-27-01*); _____ memory.
22. Are you positive of your identification (if not, then explain)? *yes*
23. Signature of reporter: *Beth K. Willis* (date) *10-27-01*

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1. English and Scientific names: *Sage Thrasher*
Coccothraustes montana
2. Number of individuals, age, sex, general plumage (e. g., "2 adult males in alternate <breeding> plumage"): 1
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: Cameron
(parish)
Secret place road E past installation to bend in road (track)
as it turns S. (specific locality)
4. Date(s) when observed: Oct 27, 2001
5. Time(s) of day when observed: mid-day, between 12 and 1 pm.
6. Reporting observer and address:
Cecil C. Kersting
401 Rue St. Peter #228
Metairie, LA 70005
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Marty Gividy & LOS birding group.
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
Chas Lyon & Mark Swan
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Very good light, sun to south, bird not shaded
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
Swarovski 8.5x42 binocs.
11. Distance to bird(s):
15 ft / or 5 meters
12. Duration of observation:
5 min.

13. Habitat: *Posture with scattered bushes 6 ft high*
14. Behavior of bird/circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding the observation):
Roosting feeding at eye level in an acacia like shrub.
15. Description (include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen; if possible, give details on 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. Attach additional pages as necessary):
*Bird about size of, or bit smaller than Mockingbird.
Bill short slightly decurved, dark
Eye light
Grayish upper parts, streaked underparts
Buffy wash on flanks
Tail, medium length: could not see any white on tail
It was a Thrasher. Sage Thrashers are casual migrants to the east from their range in Western US*
16. Voice: *Not heard, apparently silent*
17. Similar species (and how are they eliminated by your description?):
Spotted Towhee, also grayish than most.
18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):
(uncertain)
19. Previous experience with this species:
Have seen only a few times in the east.
20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birds, etc. used in identification):
Not Geo. Guide
21. This description is written from: ☒ notes made during the observation; _____ notes made after the observation (date: _____); _____ memory.
22. Are you positive of your identification (if not, then explain)? *Yes*
23. Signature of reporter: *Clark A. Perkins*
(date) *Dec 18 2001*

Louisiana Ornithological Society

Bird Records Committee

Report Form

Species: Sage Thrasher, *Oreoscoptes montanus*

Number: 1

Locality: Hackberry Ridge, Cameron Parish, Louisiana

Date: October 28, 2001

Time: about 1:00 p.m.

Reporter: David P. Muth,
1617 Charlton Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana 70122

With Reporter: Purrington, Myers, etc.

Other Observers: found by Mr. and Mrs. Willis (?) 10/27/01; numerous observers thereafter.

Light: excellent

Optics: Swarovski EL 10x40

Distance: as near as 15 feet

Duration: 5-10 minutes

Habitat: marshy edge of over-grazed cheniere-- short-cropped grass interspersed with acacia and salt matrimony vine

Behavior: skulking in acacia or feeding in salt matrimony vine

Description:

A mockingbird-like thrasher with heavily streaked breast, a buffy wash below, thin wing bars, no tail spots; see photos.

Voice: not heard

Similar Species: No. Mockingbird has prominent white flash in wing, white outer tail feathers, lacks streaks on breast.

Photos/Videos/Recordings: photos attached

Previous Experience: a few out west, one previously in Louisiana

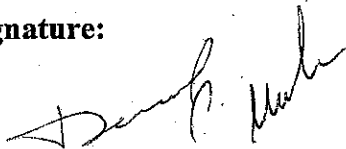
Aids: none

Circumstances of Description:

Written from memory and looking at my photos.

Confidence Level: I am certain of the identification.

Signature:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David P. Muth". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes.

David P. Muth

Date: December 19, 2001

