

**LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
RARE BIRD DOCUMENTATION**

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**Species:** Brown-crested Flycatcher, *Myiarchus tyrannulus*

**Location:** Chalmette Battlefield and National Cemetery, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana

**Date:** 30 December 2020

**Age and sex:** Adult, sex unknown

**Molt status:** None apparent

**Number of individuals:** One

**Other observers:** James Smithers, John Garrett, Matt Brady

**Original observer:** A returning bird

**Circumstances:** After seeing a report that the Brown-crested Flycatcher had returned to its regular location at Chalmette Battlefield, we went over to look for it. It took us a while, but I eventually found it deep in some short woods just west of its usual location, here: 29.9442103, -89.9877926. We watched it at our leisure in good light.

**Description:** A large *Myiarchus* flycatcher, with a fairly stocky bill. Brown above with shaggy crest. Pale gray on throat and chest, fading to a fairly bright lemon yellow on belly and vent. Wings with faint wing bars and rufous edging on remiges. Same rufous edging on tail feathers, though I didn't pay much attention to the pattern of rufous on the tail. My photos, however, do show rufous going to the tip of the feather on the inner web of R6. The bird gave a few "whip" calls.

**Discussion:** The only confusion species are Great Crested and Ash-throated. The former is extremely rare in winter (one record in the state, I think), and has a larger bill with a pale base to the mandible, and much brighter and broader white tertial edgings. Ash-throated is smaller, lankier, smaller-billed, has a dark tip to R6, and a different call.









