

# 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 as necessary. Please print or type. Attach xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more 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: *Black-throated Gray Warbler*, *Setophaga nigrescens*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): *One female (prob HY)*
3. Locality: Parish: East Baton Rouge  
Specific Locality: Arsenal Park (Capitol Lakes)
4. Date(s) when observed: *4 December 2020*
5. Time(s) of day when observed: *1009 CST*
6. Reporting observer and address: *Robert C. Dobbs, Lafayette, LA*
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): *Andy From*
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): *Discovered 2 December by Andre Moncrieff et al.*
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): *In shade of live oak, but fairly bright due to mostly clear, mid-morning sky*
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): *Swarovski 8x30 binos (good condition), Nikon AF-S 300 mm 1:4 D camera lens (good condition)*
11. Distance to bird(s): *6-7 m*
12. Duration of observation: *Initial/best look was about 10 sec, followed by a quick glimpse a while later*

13. Habitat: Maintained park with a number of large live oaks and other trees, mowed lawn, flower beds, etc. (and a few shrubby thickets)

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Foraging with mixed species flock (but not observed long enough to really get a feel for its behavior)

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): "Dendroica" type warbler with white throat (HY female), breast, belly and vent; contrasting with black streaking on sides. Boldly striped head with black mask/auriculars bordered by white malar area and wide white supercilium and black crown. Small yellow spot in supraloral. Underside of folded tail was white with thick black edges (outer veins of outer rectrices black). I never saw the bird's upperparts.

16. Voice: Not vocal

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Black and white coloration superficially similar to Black-and-White Warbler, but similarity ends there--this bird lacks the white median crown stripe and dark streaking on the undertail coverts of BAWW, has a deeper, shorter (less slender) bill than BAWW, and did not forage as typical BAWW. When I first spotted the bird, it struck me as similar to Cerulean Warbler, but diagnostic characters obviously ruled that out within 2-3 sec.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? Attached?): Yes, by Robert C. Dobbs

19. Previous experience with this species: Extensive in SW U.S.

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

a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: Dunn and Garrett (1997) A field guide to warblers of North America

21. This description is written from:   X   notes made during the observation (       notes attached?);        notes made after the observation (date:       );        memory;   X   images taken during the observation.

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

23. Date: 4 January 2021 Time: 1535 CST

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

