

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: [Black-whiskered Vireo](#) (*Vireo altiloquus*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): [1, assumed male \(singing\)](#)
3. Parish: [Lafayette](#)
Specific Locality: [102 Goodwood Cir., 2.4 km N of Milton](#)
4. Date(s) when observed: [10 June 2018](#)
5. Time(s) of day when observed: [7:30 am](#)
6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Erik I. Johnson
City: Lafayette
State: Louisiana
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): [none](#)
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): [Overcast, rain approaching from southwest, bird not seen. Wind <10 mph.](#)
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): [N/A](#)
11. Distance to bird(s): [150-200 feet](#)
12. Duration of observation: [5 minutes](#)

13. Habitat: Rural residential – a patch of large trees surrounded by residential and bordering a sugar cane field

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): singing, seemingly in the subcanopy of a small patch of hardwood trees ~50-ft tall

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*): I was in my backyard working on a few things, when I heard what sounded like a strange vireo – a choppy, unmusical “wit-sec” notes repeated every couple seconds, which I thought sounded right for a Black-whiskered Vireo. I pulled up a song from xeno-canto on my phone and immediately found that it matched. I ran into the house and opened my recording app on my smartphone that has an input gain boost (RecForge Lite) and by the time I was out the front door, I was recording and walking quietly out into the cul-de-sac toward the bird. The bird seemed to be singing across the street, in the tall trees just behind my neighbor’s house about 150-200 feet away. After recording for about a minute, I shut it off and scanned with my binoculars as I couldn’t find the bird. It continued to sing for a couple more minutes when the rain hit. I ultimately did not see the bird, and after the shower had passed about 15 minutes later, I was out looking and walked around the area some, but could not relocate the bird by sight or sound.

16. Voice: Choppy, repetitive “wit-sec”, repeated every couple seconds, continuously for about 5 minutes.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Considered Red-eyed Vireo and Yellow-green Vireo, but five minutes of singing proved to not vary from sample in the 1-minute recording. I even considered a Northern Mockingbird at first, but this bird did not change its tune. Interestingly, about a week later, my local yard mockingbird seemed to throw in two “wit-sec” calls into a long ramble song of all kinds of things.

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

19. Previous experience with this species: Heard a few years ago in summer at Chenier au Tigre, but mostly only ever seen.

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

a. at time of observation: Xeno-canto.org

b. after observation: [Audubon app \(comparing other vireos\)](#)

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	Mid-morning 6/10/2018 https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S46440562
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: [Yes](#)

23. Date: [19 June 2018](#)

Time: [3:20 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](#)