

# 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](mailto:zoiseaux@lusfiber.net)> .

1. English and Scientific names: [Black-whiskered Vireo \(\*Vireo altiloquus\*\) \(\*barbatulus?\*\)](#)

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): [1, unknown age/sex](#)

3. Parish: [Jefferson](#)

Specific Locality: [TNC LeBlanc-Landry Tract, Grand Isle, LA \(29.23510, -89.99316\)](#)

4. Date(s) when observed: [9 April 2022](#)

5. Time(s) of day when observed: [4:45 pm](#)

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: <a href="#">Erik I. Johnson</a>
City: <a href="#">Sunset</a>
State: <a href="#">LA</a>

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): [Ceci Johnson](#)

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): [Mark Meunier](#) had seen a (the) Black-whiskered Vireo at this spot the afternoon before, a few minutes before Ceci and I bumped into him, but none of us could relocate the bird in the blowing treetops (20-25+ mph winds). Dan Mooney (per his Facebook post) had seen a (the?) Black-whiskered Vireo in the same forest tract on 31 March 2022, but I'm not sure of the exact location. It does look similar to the bird I saw in terms of whisker intensity and bill size (see Dan's picture on right grabbed from Facebook).



9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Clear afternoon light. Bird often just below canopy in shade, but sometimes somewhat backlit against the sky, but mostly looking toward the south, so side-lit. Very little wind, branches still.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Vortex Razor 10x42 binoculars. Nikon D7200 SLR with Sigma 150-600 mm f/4.5-6.3 lens. Both in good condition.
11. Distance to bird(s): First seen about 25 meters away methodically moving through the canopy, then was able to get within 10-15 meters, almost directly below the bird.
12. Duration of observation: Followed continuously for just over 10 minutes before the bird flew off to the east.
13. Habitat: Coastal live oak forest.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): There were really few birds in the woods, so finding any movement was worth spending time on. I first noticed the bird about 25 m away making a few short flights between small branches, moving methodically with several seconds of being mostly stationary between jumps, keying me into what seemed like a vireo in the location where Mark M. had seen the Black-whiskered Vireo the day before. The bird continued this foraging behavior the entire time we followed it, foraging in the subcanopy, mostly just below the treetops. We were able to see it catch a few caterpillars, and it seemed to glean other unidentified insects.
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*): Pretty quickly after finding the bird, it was clearly a Red-eyed/Black-whiskered Vireo type with the dark eye stripe and pale supercilium contrasting against a grayish crown. The back was olive and had no wing bars. The bird was pale creamy-white (slightly dusky-olive) below with dull yellowish undertail coverts. Both malars had moderately thick dark "whiskers" that continued to be visible throughout the observation. The bird didn't appear wet or that the whiskers were artifacts of missing feathers. The bill wasn't huge for a Black-whiskered Vireo. Iris brownish (not seen in field, but determined in photos).
16. Voice: Silent.
17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Only similar

to Red-eyed (and Chivi) Vireo, but with whiskers. The bird seemed a bit drabber overall, too. Definitely not with yellow tones in the face like Yellow-green Vireo.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, photos included.

19. Previous experience with this species: Seen about a half dozen times in coastal Louisiana over the last 15 years, one in coastal Alabama in 2008, a couple in Amazonian Brazil (Manaus area) about 15 years ago.

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

a. at time of observation: None.

b. after observation: Reviewed Cornell's Birds of the World to consider subspecies.

21. This description is written from:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	Typed in a few brief notes on my phone into eBird: <a href="https://ebird.org/checklist/S106769571">https://ebird.org/checklist/S106769571</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

23. Date: 11 April 2022

Time: 8:40 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









