

# LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Cassin's Kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
1
3. Parish:  
Iberville
4. Specific Locality:  
St. Gabriel Ag. Research Station
5. Date(s) when observed: 4 January 2025
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 08:00
7. Reporting observer: Van Remsen
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Excellent morning light -- see photos
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10x50 Swarovskis, Nikon P950
12. Distance to bird(s): as close as 10 meters
13. Duration of observation: 25+ minutes
14. Habitat: fallow pasture with fairly tall grass and forbs
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): I first spotted this bird about 500 yards away (measured on Google Earth) as a speck that looked suspiciously like a yellow-bellied kingbird. It was sallying from the tops of vegetation into the air. Over the next 10 minutes it worked its way closer to me, and with the first decent look, I was fairly certain it was CAKI but was concerned I might be misinterpreting what I was seeing at that distance (especially given the unlikelihood of a CAKI inland in January). It kept moving closer and when with about 300 yds, I was sure it was CAKI. I wasn't certain that my playback, even with my fairly powerful little speakers, could reach that far, especially with the breeze, but somewhat to my surprise, it got the bird's attention, and it then flew somewhat closer and allowed me to get clinching documentation: a distant, highly magnified (ca. 50X) video (uploaded). I

worked it closer with occasional playback. Finally, it landed on the wires next to the road, thus allowing good photos and more video, including one with the bird calling (all uploaded). Very exciting -- Baton Rouge CBC and a first inland winter record for Louisiana (I think).

16. 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):

Rather than a description, see photos and video:

<https://ebird.org/checklist/S208067444>. The strong contrast between the white upper throat and dark gray head is the typical "look" of Cassin's Kingbird. Note whitish tips to outer rectrices..

17. Voice: In response to playback, several distinctive "vreeer" buzzy calls, which can be heard in the second video

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

See #16 above

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):

Photos and videos uploaded.

[Video 1](#)

[Video 2](#)

20. Previous experience with this species: This is my 4th in Louisiana. Extensive prior experience with the species in CO, UT, and CA

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

none

22. Identification aids used when?

None used

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

Yes

24. Date report completed:

21 May 2025

25. 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

26. If yes, may we include your name with the report?

Yes







