

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Couch's Kingbird - Tyrannus - couchii
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1 - hatch year by primary emargination, fide Nick Ramsey
3. Parish:
Calcasieu
4. Specific Locality:
Friesen Rd
5. Date(s) when observed: 2/1/25
6. Time(s) of day when observed: morning
7. Reporting observer: Esme Rosen
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Van Remsen, Nick Ramsey, Strummer Edwards
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
this was a stakeout seen by many
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): excellent
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon binoculars
12. Distance to bird(s): I was never closer than 15 meters from the bird, but I believe Van and Strummer got closer
13. Duration of observation: 10-20 minutes
14. Habitat: wooded neighborhood nestled in rice country
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): responded aggressively to tape

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):

This was a kingbird with a greenish back, bright yellow belly and chest, white throat, grey head with darker mask, blackish primaries and tail, which was forked, and a stout black bill

17. Voice: vocalized aggressively in response to playback, making keer calls, kip calls, and even singing. Van got a recording of various calls available here

<https://ebird.org/checklist/S211482120>

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

Western Kingbird by green back, forked tail, extensive yellow in chest, etc. Tropical primarily by voice, but also short thick absed bill, bright yellow breast with contrasting whitish throat all looked good for Couch's

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

I attached my one mediocre photo. Better photos and audio are on the eBird list

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20. Previous experience with this species: I've seen the species three times previously in Louisiana and numerous times in south Texas

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

none

22. Identification aids used when?

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

yes

24. Date report completed:

4/3/25

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

