

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
2 (unsure of plumages, sexes, or ages)
3. Parish: Calcasieu
Specific Locality: on HWY 397 just west of the town of Sweetlake (30.067342, -93.121839)
4. Date(s) when observed: December 17, 2018

5. Time(s) of day when observed: 11:00 AM

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Irvin Louque
City: Lake Charles
State: Louisiana

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Bird on power lines in lightly clouded/intermittent sunshine. Birds were illuminated from the observer's perspective (rather than backlit).

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Eagle Optics 8x42mm, good condition

11. Distance to bird(s): 50 feet at closest view

12. Duration of observation: 15 minutes

13. Habitat: short grassy pasture, roadside power lines, some 6-7 ft. tall brush along the road

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):

One of the birds was seen initially catching a large insect and consuming it (photo shows this). Then birds were perched on powerline, moved to other side of the road perched in brush, then flew back over the road and perched farther away on barbed wire fence (probably 150 ft. away from the road).

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*):

Flycatchers with long, forked tails were seen. Initially thought to be Scissor-tailed Flycatchers, but black head and black tail quickly eliminated this possibility. When perched, gray wings, black tail, black head, and white underparts from bill to vent were all clearly seen as one of the two birds turned to face my direction.

16. Voice:

Repetitive kik calls were heard, but I'm unsure if it was from either of the two FTFL.

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

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was eliminated by dark cap and dark tail. Eastern Kingbird was eliminated by long, forked tail. Western Kingbird and Tropical Kingbird were eliminated by lack of yellow on underparts, dark head, and long, forked tail.

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

Photographs attached. Taken by Irvin Louque.

19. Previous experience with this species: None.

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

a. at time of observation: Sibley Guide to Birds of North America 2nd Edition

b. after observation:

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<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: Dec. 18, 2018

Time: 9:16 AM



