

# LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

## REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: Golden-crowned Sparrow, *Zonotrichia atricapilla*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1
3. Parish: Bossier  
Specific Locality: 100 feet north of the Red River National Wildlife refuge Headquarters building, Bossier City, Bossier Parish, La. Close to the parking lot area.
4. Date(s) when observed: Jan. 25, 2020
5. Time(s) of day when observed:  
Only once at 9:45 a.m.
6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Bill Wood, 722 ½ Edgemont St.
City: Shreveport
State: LA, 71106
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): none
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Terri Davis, Charles Lyon, John Dillion, Michael Musumeche and others.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Clear and bright, bird facing sun but in shadow of large pecan tree.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon D500 with Nikon 300mm lens and Nikon 1.4 converter.
11. Distance to bird(s): 25 feet
12. Duration of observation: less than 30 seconds was able to get three photos before it flew.
13. Habitat: Low scrub and tangles in open areas of pecan trees.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Only perched and facing me.
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*): First noticed that this bird was a bit larger than the white-throated and white-crowned sparrows it was associating with. All I could see was it's breast, feet and head which had a gold/yellowish crown in the middle of the head, bordered by a slight black strip. The breast appeared darker because it was in

the shadow of a large pecan tree and “spotched” with a faint streak along the outer edge of the breast.

16. Voice: N/A

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Checked for winter plumage of Swamp, White-crowned, White-throated and other common winter sparrows. Could not find any plumages that matched what I saw.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? Attached?): Photos by me, others photographed it the next day.

19. Previous experience with this species: None

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification): Used Sibley's, Petterson's field guides, All About Birds website. I printed my photo and showed to Terri Davis (who round the bird that afternoon), John Dillion, and Charles Lyon who all confirmed it was a golden-crowned sparrow.

a. at time of observation: I wasn't sure what it was but was confident it was a sparrow I've never seen before. Initially didn't Golden-crowned as to the rarity of such a sight.

b. after observation: compared photos to those found in Sibley and Petterson.

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: 1-30-2020

Time: 9:45 am

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  
\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, may we include your name with the report? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_



Bill Wood  
Photography





Bill Wood  
Photography

