

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 as necessary. Please print or type. Attach xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. English and Scientific names: *Gray Kingbird, Tyrannus dominicensis*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): *One*
3. Locality: Parish: *Terrebonne*
Specific Locality: *Whiskey Island*
4. Date(s) when observed: *02 May 2018*
5. Time(s) of day when observed: *1405-1410 & ca. 1445-1450 CDT*
6. Reporting observer and address: *Robert C. Dobbs, Lafayette, LA*
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): *none*
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): *none*
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): *Good light, looking at bird to my ENE in mid-afternoon with the sun to my back, under mostly clear/sunny sky*
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): *Nikon Monarch 10x42 binos (good condition), Swarovski 80mm spotting scope (good condition), Nikon AF-S 70-300 mm 1:4.5-5.6 G camera lens (good condition)*
11. Distance to bird(s): *20-30 m*
12. Duration of observation: *10 min (during two 5-min bouts)*

13. Habitat: border between mangroves and dry, grassy/Iva area with scattered sand flats north of beach

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Consorting with two Eastern Kingbirds, sallying from, perching in, and flying among crowns of leafless (freeze-burned) mangroves and Iva shrubs.

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): A large, robust kingbird with a heavy, black bill. Uniformly pale gray crown and back. Folded wings darker gray with white edging to coverts and flight feathers. Dark mask. White throat, breast, belly, and vent, with faint gray wash to sides. Tail wide and notched, dark gray above with brownish tones. Warm brown tones in tail and folded wing may suggest SY age (see photos; unfortunately I did not photograph the bird in flight or with wings spread).

16. Voice: Not vocal

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Eastern Kingbird easily eliminated by direct comparison--see photos--upperparts paler gray, bill much larger/heavier, tail lacking white terminal band, and dark mask. Other large-billed kingbirds (e.g., Tropical, Couch's, Thick-billed) perhaps confusable at a distance in poor light, but easily eliminated here by all-white underparts, uniformly gray upperparts, etc.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? Attached?): Yes, photos by Robert C. Dobbs

19. Previous experience with this species: Very familiar with this species, from Caribbean and the northern Gulf coast (FL, AL, LA)

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

a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: Nat Geo Complete Guide to birds of N. Am.; BNA account

21. This description is written from: X notes made during the observation (notes attached?); notes made after the observation (date:); memory; X images taken during the observation.

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

23. Date: 04 May 2018 Time: 1700 CDT

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? Yes

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

Gray Kingbird (left), with Eastern Kingbird (right)



