

# 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 or files as necessary. Please print or type for hard copy. For electronic copy, be sure to save this file to your computer before entering text. Attach field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed (if hard copy), mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216, or e-mail electronic copy as an attachment to Paul Edward Conover at <[zoiseaux@lusfiber.net](mailto:zoiseaux@lusfiber.net)> .

1. English and Scientific names: [Lucy's Warbler \(\*Vermivora luciae\*\)](#)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): [1 \(ad F?\)](#)
3. Parish: [Jefferson](#)  
Specific Locality: [Grilletta Tract, Grand Isle](#)
4. Date(s) when observed: [5 Nov. 2014](#)
5. Time(s) of day when observed: [ca. 14:00](#)
6. Reporting observer and address: [J. V. Remsen, LSU Museum Natural Science](#)
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): [Rob Smith](#)
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): [many observers on subsequent days including Casey Wright, Molly Richard, Erik Johnson, Mary Mehaffey, Cameron Rutt, Matt Brady, Mike Harvey, Glenn Seeholzer, Oscar Johnson, David Muth, Phillip Wallace, and others.](#)
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): [Fairly good – partly cloudy, bird in bright shade.](#)
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): [10x40 binos](#)
11. Distance to bird(s): [To within ca. 25 feet](#)
12. Duration of observation: [Probably 3-4 mins total time in view.](#)

13. Habitat: Low woods with adjacent dense thickets. The bird stayed 5-15 ft up.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): We found a small group of small insectivores towards the rear of the tract, and I glimpsed an all-gray warbler with some pale around its eye that wagged its tail a couple of times while actively foraging. My first thought was Virginia's. But as I got another look, I could see that the undertail coverts were not yellow but whitish and that the pale around the eye was not a sharply defined eyering but a vague pale area, so I yelled "Lucy's". As I got closer, I thought I could see a trace of chestnut on the side of the rump. The bird then disappeared. Then, I ran back to the car to get the camera hoping that we could refind the bird.

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*): Tiny, mostly gray warbler with vague whitish area around the eye; faint pale tips to greater wing coverts forming a hint of a wingbar; some warm buffy tones on breast and flanks; rump presumably all chestnut but only the edge of the rump could be seen (verified in photos). From the photos, pale lores also noted, as well as what appears to be a couple of black feather shafts in crown.

16. Voice: Silent

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Virginia's would have yellow undertail coverts and distinct pale eyering.

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

19. Previous experience with this species: This may be the first individual I've seen in fresh fall plumage, or at least seen well. Many dozens seen in grayer, more worn, plumage March-July in CA, AZ, and TX.

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

a. at time of observation: None, although Rob called up a photo on his phone.

b. after observation: I looked at a few photos on internet but couldn't find a photo of a fresh fall bird. I glanced at a few field guide illustrations but none show a fresh fall bird with buffy tones on underparts (not unreasonable because so few individuals are seen

Oct-Feb)

21. This description is written from:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? **Yes**. If not, explain:

23. Date: 29 Nov. 2014

Time: 22:30 (Iron Bowl, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter)

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**