

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> .

1. English and Scientific names: Mountain Bluebird *Sialia Currocoides*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One (1) adult female.

3. Parish: Orleans

Specific Locality: Bayou Sauvage, Recovery Road, New Orleans, LA

4. Date(s) when observed: December 31, 2022

5. Time(s) of day when observed: 10:30 A.M.

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Jon Wise
City: Metairie
State: Louisiana

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): James Beck, Rick Beck, Linda Kingsland

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): David Muth, Mark Meunier, Joan Garvey, Tu Wren, Dan Lane, Van Remsen.

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Overcast, gray, but good visibility. Bird was easily seen initially on top of tree next to road and moving onto grassy levee.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss Conquest HD 8 x 42 binoculars; Canon EOS Rebel t7i with Tamron 150-600 telephoto lens, relatively new and in great condition.

11. Distance to bird(s): From 40 to 15 yards, no obstruction.
12. Duration of observation: 20 minutes. Bird was cooperative and seen and photographed by entire party.
13. Habitat: Mixed woods on southern edge of ponds/ grassy levee at Industrial Canal, in eastern Orleans Parish.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): The bird was initially seen atop a willow tree adjacent to the gravelled road immediately east of the pumping station at the southern terminus of Recovery Road (where the road turns east to follow the levee of the Industrial Canal). The bird was stationary for several minutes and then began to engage in typical bluebird behavior, sallying forth to the grass on the levee side of the road to feed and then returning to its perch. It remained the entire time we observed, which was about twenty minutes.
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*): Typical female Mountain Bluebird (I have seen these in the Rockies, around Pikes Peak, and Florissant Colorado, and Boulder area). Brownish, gray back, head, flanks and breast, with white visible undertail coverts, with blue wings, rump and tail. Very visible white eye ring. Thinnish black bill, dark legs and feet.
16. Voice: The bird did not vocalize while I was present.
17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Eastern and Western Bluebirds. Brown flanks next to white undertail coverts. Thin, longer bill, no red orange on breast. Also, the bird displayed hovering over prey at least twice.
18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): I took multiple photographs, along with the others in the party. No tape recordings from me.
19. Previous experience with this species: Seen in the western United States in Colorado Springs, Florissant Colorado and Boulder Colorado.
20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):
- a. at time of observation: Ibird, James Beck

b. after observation: National Geographic Field Guide

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	12/31/22
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: I am convinced it was a Mountain Bluebird.

23. Date: 1/02/22

Time: 2:15 p.m.

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?

___X___ YES _____

If yes, may we include your name with the report? _____X___ YES _____











