

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: **Pyrrhuloxia (*Cardinalis sinuatus*)**
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One individual in female plumage (presumed female)
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: (parish) **Jefferson Davis Parish**

Specific Locality: **Wild Rd. off LA-99, ca. 6.0 mi. S of Welsh**
4. Date(s) when observed: **22 December 2015**
5. Time(s) of day when observed: **~1:05 – 1:15 PM CST**
6. Reporting observer and address: **Devin Bosler**
14112 Crossing Way East
Edmond, OK 73013
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): **None**
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): **Dan O'Malley (originally discovered on 18 December during Lac-Thorn CBC), Steve Cardiff, Donna Dittmann, Paul Conover (multiple dates), Van Remsen, Dave Patton, m.ob. (last reported on 29 December 2015)**
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):

Overcast with patchy, dense fog. Fog gradually clearing by midday. Sun angle relatively high. Backlighting or glare not a problem.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): **Zeiss Victory FL 8x42, Canon Powershot HS 110 digital elph point-and-shoot camera (equipment in excellent condition).**

11. Distance to bird(s): **within 10-15 meters**

12. Duration of observation: **~5 min.**

13. Habitat: **Open ag./ aquaculture land, cultivated cropland, fallow wet fields, disturbed riparian corridors, tertiary bottomland hardwood tracts, freshwater bayou + coulee, freshwater marsh margins, cultivated water oak-live oak-willow-yaupon-privet shelterbelt, brushy edges, grassy edges, roadside scrub, rural residential, etc.**

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

First heard (distinctive, higher-pitched, metallic 'chink') and then observed relatively high in subcanopy of mature water oak on south side of road after about three hours of searching. It appeared to be foraging on buds/ veg. matter within the dense subcanopy. Its movements were slow but methodical as it foraged from branch to branch. Although initially loosely associated with one or two Northern Cardinals (NOCA), it remained solitary and relatively silent throughout most of my encounter. It also remained obstructed by foliage throughout duration of my observation though good views were had at times. It eventually moved south along tree line on west side of coulee and out of sight.

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 medium-sized passerine about cardinal size. Overall drab light gray-brown throughout upperparts and underparts. Reddish visible in folded wing. Slightly grayer head with proportionately long, distinct reddish crest. Red feathering coalescing around eyes. Proportionately long, rounded, red-and-gray tail. Relatively large, rounded, conical-shaped (due to pronouncedly curved culmen) bill.

Dull horn-flesh bill. Dark brown irides. Dark legs and feet.

16. Voice: **A high-pitched, metallic ‘chink’ similar to NOCA though sharper and more metallic in quality. Call notes only.**

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):
Superficially similar to NOCA, however, differentiated by taller, reddish crest and pale horn (not reddish) bill with dramatically pronounced curved culmen.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): **Yes, one digiscoped photo. Yes, attached.**

19. Previous experience with this species:

Familiar with this species from numerous encounters throughout arid and semi-arid southwestern U.S. in TX, NM, and AZ.

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

a. at time of observation: **none**

b. after observation: **Various online/ web resources.**

21. This description is written from: **__Yes__** notes made during the observation (____notes attached?); **__Yes__** notes made after the observation (date:____); **__Yes__** memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter: **Devin Bosler** Date: **12 February 2016** Time: **4:00 PM CST**

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

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



