

Louisiana Ornithological Society's
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, *Cardinalus sinuatus*

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):

1, apparent female

3. Locality: LOUISIANA: (parish) (specific locality)

Jefferson Davis Parish, Wild Road, 0.8 mile east of intersection with LA 99.

4. Date(s) when observed:

12/20/2015

5. Time(s) of day when observed:

7:40 AM CST // 8:40 AM CST

6. Reporting observer and address:

Jay V. Huner
428 Hickory Hill Drive
Boyce, LA 71409

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):

Gary Meyers

8. Other observers who Independently identified the bird(s):

Dan O'Malley, Donna Dittmann, Steve Cardiff, and Paul Conover.

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):

7:40 AM – Bird in shadows in oak facing rising sun, flew over road in decent light but in leaves. 8:40 AM – Seen both in shadows with facing into rising sun and facing away from rising sun. Also see in open on stalk with no shadows or glare.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):

Zeiss 10 x 42 Conquest HD – Good Condition

11. Distance to bird(s):

Various – as close as 15 yards and as far as 50 yards.

12. Duration of Observation:

7:40 AM – about 2 minutes and 8:40 AM – about 2 minutes total but seen several times during a period of about 5 minutes.

13. Habitat:

Riparian type habitat in vicinity of irrigation canal and along drainage ditch. Area around irrigation canal early tree stage of succession, mostly oaks about 30-40' tall and dense. Area along drainage ditch riparian with 30-40' tall oaks for first 50 yards from road, then heavy vines and annual plants.

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

7:40 AM – bird flew from south to north along drainage canal. Stopped at edge of road in tree and then flew across road into trees at edge of clearing. Remained a bit and dropped down west into heavy vegetation. 8:40 AM – Seen flying from north to south along west side of drainage ditch in riparian trees. Seemed to be in the company of a male Northern Cardinal. Followed it to end of trees and it doubled back to north. Left to get Gary Meyers so he could see/document bird. Spotted on tall stalk about 3' off ground on west side of ditch beyond the riparian tree line. Subsequently dropped into ditch vegetation and not relocated.

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):

Medium-sized song bird. Looked like a stocky gray Northern Cardinal in flight. When stopped in tree and later on stalk, saw long, somewhat frilly crest and light colored, stubby, thick, curved bill – sort of parrot-like.

16. Voice:

Song not detected if bird was singing. But heard what appeared to be call notes. Were similar to Northern Cardinal but cadence very different. That is, each note was steady with a distinct interval between each note. On bird app, the Northern Cardinal call was much more rapid.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

Suppose female Northern Cardinal might be mistaken for Pyrrhuloxia but crest shape and bill shape and color totally different.

18. Photos/Recordings:

One poor photo of bird and habitat photos to be sent.

19. Previous experience with this species:

Have seen this species in Texas and Arizona at least 4 times.

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

- a. at time of observation: Sibley Field Guide and National Geographic Field Guide
- b. after observation: Kaufman Birds of North America and internet images.

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

Field Notes: “Inflight going away. Havy set, gray cardinal-like. In company, loose, male cardinal. Long thin crest. Bill conical, yellowish bill, seemed hook like. Foraging along canal.”

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

Yes

23. Signature of reporter __Jay V. Huner_ 12/21/2015 / 9:55 PM