

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: Townsend's Solitaire *Myadestes townsendi*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1
3. Parish: Cameron
Specific Locality: Willow Island
4. Date(s) when observed: May 6, 2021
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 5:25 p.m.

6. Reporting observer and city/state address:
Reporting observer: Malise Prieto
City: Mandeville
State: Louisiana

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

Charlotte Chehotsky and Elise Reed

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

Derek Sallmann arrived as we were leaving

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Good. The bird moved around us to different perches and was very accommodating for viewing both with binoculars and camera zoom lenses

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Vortex Viper 12 x 50 binoculars; Photos taken with Nikon P-1000

11. Distance to bird(s): 10' at closest, mostly observed from 20-30' and up to 40'

12. Duration of observation: Approximately 20 minutes. Observed the bird for about 15 minutes and took photographs. Left the Oak Grove and continued to bird the rest of the hotspot area and then came back to observe it again for at least 5 more minutes at the end of our visit to Willow Island.

13. Habitat: Live Oak Grove situated with numerous mature (100+ year old) Live Oak trees growing around an open center area with oriole feeders at center.

14. Behavior of bird/circumstances of observation: flying, feeding, resting;; including stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): The TOSO stayed for periods of time at each perch on different tree limbs, flying down to the ground to catch food and returning to the same spot and then it would move to do the same at another tree. The bird did not appear stressed at any point. It was very accommodating for us to take photos and it allowed us to get pretty close to it.

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.: Small/medium sized slender thrush with an elongated body, perched in an upright position, white eye-ring, overall gray (darker uppers and lighter gray below), short dark bill, long tail and light cream colored patches in the wings that formed a light colored strip in the wings in flight.

16. Voice: I did not hear the bird vocalize during the time I observed it.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): This bird is very distinctive with its upright posture, short dark bill, white eye-ring, and light cream patches in he wings. I have seen, heard and identified them in Colorado, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Charlotte spotted the bird and called Elise Reed and me over to look at it as she did not know what it was. Although it took my brain a few minutes to come up with the species name, I recognized the bird, told Charlotte that it was a western species, rare for LA and then, remembered the name. I do not know of a similar looking bird.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, the three of us took photographs. My photos will be attached to the email submitting this report.

19. Previous experience with this species: I have seen, heard and identified TOSO in Colorado, Utah, Washington and Wyoming in the last 3 years.

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification): iBird Ultimate and Merlin ID Apps.

a. at time of observation: YES. While we were there, Charlotte sent photos to one of our local experts, I think Eric Johnson, who confirmed that the bird was a TOSO.

b. after observation: No

21. This description is written from:

notes made during the observation. YES Are notes attached? eBird list which I will email to Donna Dittman

notes made after the observation. NO. At what date?
memory. NO

study of images. NO

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

23. Date: May 17, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm

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? Yes

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









