

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Tropical kingbird
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1 individual, adult plumage, sex unknown
3. Parish:
Orleans
4. Specific Locality:
Bayou Sauvage Urban NWR--lake levee east (I-10 to old bike path)
5. Date(s) when observed: December 6, 2024
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 1:15pm
7. Reporting observer: Tracy Wiczer
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Linda Benner, Cathy Pickrel
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Sunny afternoon, bird in direct sunlight
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon Monarch M7 HG 10x42 binoculars, new. Pictures taken with Nikon Coolpix p950
12. Distance to bird(s): 50-300 ft
13. Duration of observation: 30 minutes
14. Habitat: Brushy area on edge of water along trail
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): First seen when we turned the corner of the path. Bird was perched on the top of one of the trees along the path near the edge of the water. Was vocalizing while sitting on first perch. Perched there for several minutes then flew to several different perches over the next half hour or so. Stayed in each place for several minutes, each perch was the topmost

point of tree/pole it chose. Was no longer vocalizing after it moved from first position. Bird was also much farther away.

16. 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):

Large flycatcher, yellowish gray back, gray head with eyeline, yellow belly. See pictures

17. Voice: Clear, sweet sounding.

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

Heavier bill than western and couch's kingbirds. Yellow goes up further than western kingbird. Vocalizations repeatedly IDd as tropical kingbird by Merlin. Bad traffic noise but not other competing bird sounds to confuse sound ID.

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):

Both, obtained by Tracy Wiczer. Attached.

20. Previous experience with this species: First time Cathy and I have seen one. Linda Benner has seen them before but experience limited to seeing them while traveling. She mentioned having guides to confirm IDs with previous encounters. This is not a bird that is seen in our home state Ohio.

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

Sibley's app. Merlin.

22. Identification aids used when?

At time of sighting, After observation

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

Yes

24. Date report completed:

December 23, 2024

25. 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

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

Yes





