

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: (keyed out as) Western Wood Pewee *Contopus sordidulus*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1
3. Locality: Cameron Parish
Specific Locality: Cameron area
4. Date(s) when observed: 9/21/2019
5. Time(s) of day when observed: about 12:50 to about 12:56 pm
6. Reporting observer and address: Paul Conover, Lafayette, LA
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s):
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Optimal when bird was perched closest.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10x Zeiss at first look, then mostly naked eye as bird was uncooperative. Finally got camera on it and was able to see finer detail through viewfinder.
11. Distance to bird(s): Various distances. About 20 feet when I was able to see its details well enough to consider an ID.
12. Duration of observation: Visual observation lasted about 2 minutes, probably. The rest of the time was spent angling for a look.
13. Habitat: Seen flying at first, an obvious pewee, looked dark, but kept ahead of me whenever I tried to approach it. Eventually perched on a fence.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation: The bird was seen flying fairly high as if in transit, and alighting occasionally ahead of me. Very wary. Eventually it stopped on a brushy fenceline and I was able to approach 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):

Dark pewee with cloudy dark suffusion on breast forming a vest crossing the upper breast, with a paler area intruding from belly along the keel but not dividing vest. Belly with pale yellow wash. Chin and throat with enclosed paler patch. Undertail coverts marked with at least one fairly dark central mark. Upperparts grayish-brown, auriculars somewhat warmer brown. Upper wingbar weak, formed of thin pale edges to coverts; coverts fresh, so narrow edge not the result of wear. Lower wingbar broader and more contrasting, formed of indistinct pale edge to coverts.

Bill solidly dark, with maxilla blackish, mandible completely dark, no paleness even at base. Eyes dark brown. Legs dark.

16. Voice: not heard, but I had the video running, so others reviewing video might be able to detect if the bird called without my knowledge.

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

Elimination hypothetical until comparison with Eastern Wood Pewee specimens is possible, but I believe the overall color, including warmer tones on auricular, darker centers to undertail coverts, depth of suffusion of dark on vest, small, isolated pale throat area, solidly dark mandible will be provide the key.

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

19. Previous experience with this species: Seen many out west, most recently in Texas and Arizona—where constantly present--four months prior to this sighting.

21. Are you positive of your identification if not, explain: I have a high level of confidence that specimen review will confirm the ID.

22. Date: 10/07/2019















