

# 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](mailto:zoiseaux@lusfiber.net)> .

1. English and Scientific names: **Western Wood Pewee, *Contopus sordidulus***

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

**One adult**

3. Parish: **Cameron**

Specific Locality: **Willow Island**

4. Date(s) when observed: **30 September 2022**

5. Time(s) of day when observed: **Late afternoon**

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: <b>Paul Conover</b>
City: <b>Lafayette</b>
State: <b>LA</b>

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): **Good lighting, but filtered evening light**

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): **Zeiss 10s**

11. Distance to bird(s): specimen

12. Duration of observation:

13. Habitat: **Coastal woodlot**

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

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, *or for species that are known to hybridize frequently, stress features that help eliminate possible hybrids*):

A medium-sized flycatcher with long primary extension. Color overall brownish. Dorsal color appeared even throughout, with no wraparound paler auriculars and nape, thus no darker-capped look or isolated dark eye. Flight feathers dark brown, slightly darker than dorsum; shafts brownish. Wingbars formed by narrow buffy margin to median coverts, slightly broader buffy margins to great coverts. Narrow buffy margins to tertials.

Tail feathers somewhat blunt at tips, appearing adult.

Underparts paler than dorsum. Chin, throat, upper breast, belly, and flanks dusky brownish with small whitish area at chin and another small pale dot on throat. Dusky color making broad solid area across upper and mid breast; pale area along mid line on lower breast/upper belly creating impression of broad dark vest unbuttoned only at bottom. Pale dull yellow tint to belly and between legs. Undertail coverts off white with dark diamond-shaped centers.

Feathering at bend of underwing with buffy/dusky yellow base color.

Bill dark above. Lower mandible dark horn with darker tip, sunburst pattern of dusky orange/horn narrowly outlining arc of basal bill feathering. Cutting edge of lower mandible narrowly orange on basal half of bill. No evidence of fleshy gape.

Eyes dark brown. Legs black.

16. Voice:

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

Pyle states that the best means of separating Eastern and Western wood pewees is distance from tip of tail to tip of longest uppertail covert minus difference of longest s - longest p. Pyle states that a cutoff of 6.5 mm (WPPE <6.5mm) identifies ~ 97.5% of individuals under all circumstances. The following measurements (photos of measurement included following report) indicate WEWP.

	In mm
<b>a. Longest uppertail covert to tail tip</b>	30
<b>b. Longest s to longest p</b>	25
<b>a-b</b>	5

The overall color and pattern of the bird (ventral breastband, dark auriculars and nape, dark lower mandible, dark undertail covert centers) also indicate WEWP.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): **Specimen; PEC.**

19. Previous experience with this species: This is a species I've seen quite a bit and paid a lot of attention to out west, as recently as summer 2022. I've also seen and collected several in Louisiana.

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

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation: Pyle

21. This description is written from: **Evaluation of specimen.**

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: **I'm positive that this is a bird of interest. Evidence points to WEWP, but I'd like for SWC and/or EIJ to provide independent measurements for verification.**

23. Date: **25 October 2022**

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? \_\_\_\_\_

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