

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2016-10-24 16:52:19
Observer's Name	Mike Epler
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Phone	(717)982-5291
Observer's Address	1941 Hillsdale Rd Middletown PA 17057 United States
Species (Common Name)	Western Kingbird
Species (Scientific Name)	Tyrannus verticalis
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Adult, sex unknown
Observation Date and Time	10-21-2016 9:10 AM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S32142842
County	Lancaster
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Conestoga
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Chestnut Grove Natural Area
GPS coordinates of sighting	39.94625,-76.43579
Habitat	Mixed, grassland / forest edge / wetland
Distance to bird	650'
Viewing conditions	Realatively clear, slight haze from morning fog remained
Optical equipment used	Pentax PF-80ED @ 50X
Description	The bird had the shape of a flycatcher and was slightly larger than nearby Eastern Bluebird. It had bright yellow underparts, a light gray head and breast, a lighter throat, and dark bill. In flight it showed a dark tail with white outer edges.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	The bird was initially seen perched at the edge of a bare deciduous tree. Subsequently it was observed sallying out from its perch catching insects. It was also seen to briefly harass an American Kestrel that landed in the top of the same tree.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

The most common flycatcher with a yellow belly in this area would be Great Crested which is eliminated by the cool gray color. The white outer edge of the tail feathers also eliminate this, as well as any other kingbird species.

Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)

Yes, behavior fits, plumage eliminates any other reasonable possibility.

After

Sibley Birds app

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings



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