

**Bird Studies Canada/ Long Point Bird Observatory**  
**P.O. BOX 160, Port Rowan, Ontario, Canada N0E 1M0 Tel: (519) 586-3531**

**RARITY REPORT** In order that any sight record or banding of a rare species can be accepted for the historical record, it must be properly documented. LPBO cooperators are therefore asked to complete a form in every case where a rarity is being claimed. Guidance as to which species are considered rare in the Long Point area may be obtained from the Migration Program Manager. Each observer should prepare his/her description independently and preferably before consulting any field guides or other literature. **PLEASE PRINT.**

**Species claimed:** Townsend's Solitaire

**No. of birds:** 1

**Age:** unknown

**Sex:** unknown

**Date(s):** October 14, 2013

**Place:** The Tip, Long Point, Lake Erie, ON.

**Time(s) of Observation:** Approximately 10am

**Who first saw the bird(s):** Edward Jenkins

**Who first identified it:** Edward Jenkins

**Other observers (names and addresses):** Julia Gulka

**Any who disagree:** None.

**Your previous experience with the species:** None.

**Your previous experience with any closely similar species: (a) Formerly: (b) Same day:** None

**Species present for comparison:** None but we had been watching an Eastern Wood-Pewee in the area a short while before so my first reaction before looking through the Binos was that it was an EAWP.

**Which were beside it for comparison:** None.

**Distance from observer(s):** 8m

**How measured:** The height of the tree it was in plus a few for our distance from the tree.

**Optical aids used:** 8x42 Nikon Binoculars

**Weather conditions (at time of observation):** Partly cloudy.

**Visibility:** Good

**Cloud Cover:** 5

**Lighting:** Very light.

**Wind direction and speed:** Light wind, direction unknown

**Other relevant conditions:** N/A

(eg. rain, snow cover, etc.)

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**Weather system preceding the date of observation (if known):** A few days of Westerly winds.

*Attach weather map clipping from local or national newspaper if relevant.*

**Associated movements of other species:**

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**Was the bird trapped:** No

**Band # if banded:** No

**Was it photographed:** No

**If yes, by whom (name and address):** N/A

**Specimen or parts preserved:** No

**Present location:** N/A

**Circumstances:**

Julia and I had left the banding lab at the Tip and were walking South, following the trail that leads east via the nets to the end of the Tip. Just to the east of the meadow that the trail cuts through, there are a couple of leafless trees. The bird was sitting in a tree just north of a Hawk net that bisects the path as it runs east. The bird was at the top of the tree on an exposed branch, in a similar position to that of a Wood-pewee or Olive-sided Flycatcher. I looked at it and immediately called out to Julia and we looked at it for maybe a minute before it flew over us towards the South-west and then headed towards the tall trees around the house. We returned to the house and altered the others, but we could not re-find it.

**Description:**

Even though at first glance my impression was that it was perhaps a large flycatcher, upon inspection with binoculars my first reaction was 'I have never seen this bird before'. We noticed an all grey, long tailed, thrush-like bird with an obvious white eye-ring. It did not have the large head although shared a somewhat upright posture while perched atop the tree. Julia commented on its glaringly showy eye-ring. It then flew over us revealing a large buffy patches in each wing, clearly visible from below, that extended through the middle of the flight feathers. It's long dark tail was prominently edged with white outer tail feathers.

**Did you refer to any guides/other literature: (a) at the time: (b) afterwards:**  
**Finally, is this record 100% certain?**

I referred to Sibley and National Geographic. I was 100% sure as soon as I saw the bird through my binoculars that it was a TOSO.

**Signed:** Edward Jenkins

**Date:** January 13, 2013

**Mailing Address:** 27C Frant Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 5JT, Kent, United Kingdom