

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
REPORT FORM

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of unusual birds. It may be used flexibly and need not be used at all. Leave blank any details not observed. Attach additional sheets if necessary. Please print or type. Attach drawings, photographys, etc.; include all photos if an obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to the Secretary of the LOS Bird Records Committee.

- 1. Common and scientific name: Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*)
- 2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): 1 ♂ (by size) basic plumage
- 3. Locality: Louisiana: Acadia Parish: ^{ca} 6 mi. S of Crowley on Hwy 35.
On west side of road ^{^ see Rosenberg report form for exact mile}
- 4. Date(s) when seen: 26 January 1990
- 5. Times of day when seen: @ 10 AM
- 6. Reporting observer and address: Andrew W. Kratter: 868 Glenmore, Baton Rouge, LA 70806

- 7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:
Kenneth V. Rosenberg
- 8. Other observers who independently identified the bird:
K.V. Rosenberg (found and initially identified)
- 9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Clear; light to SE of observers, bird to W; bird in open area well lit
- 10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 8x Swarovski binoc. and 22x Bushnell scope - both
In good condition
- 11. Distance to bird: 75-105 yards
- 12. Duration of observation: 1 hour 15 min
- 13. Habitat (general and specific):
In flooded rice field, maybe 1 inch of water. Sometimes alit on "islands" in the field.

- 14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification): Rather slow moving; picked off surface mainly something slightly probing.
Flew 3 or 4 times; no detectable behavioral differences from Greater Yellowlegs in flight;

- 15. Description (Include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen. Include if possible: total length; body bulk; shape, bill, eye, and leg characteristics; color and pattern of plumage, etc. Stress field marks):

Size - same as Greater Yellowlegs, with which it perched next to; 1.25-1.5x size of ~~lesser~~ Lesser Yellowlegs and Killdeer

Shape - dumper than Greater Yellowlegs, plumper body with small round head, somewhat humped back

Bill - about 1/25x length of head, thin, slightly drooped at tip; all dark

Head - very plain grey brown, eye distinct on face, lighter grey on forehead and around bill; crown and nape sandy brown with indistinct speckled look

Back - same as crown and nape

Wing Coverts - dark brown with thin but distinct pale buff-grey edgings

Tertials - barred dark brown and buff-rufous; as long as tail

Underparts - Breast with pale wash through midbreast, immaculate white belly and undertail
a few new dark feathers on upper flanks-shoulder on both sides

Legs - bright orange tony

In flight - very slight wing stripe, which narrowed near body
upper tail coverts forming white ~~U~~ ~~shape~~ U shape around dark central stripe,
tail dark

Sketch: attached, made following day from tape-recorded notes. No field guide was consulted

16. Voice: Did not call

17. Similar species (include how they are eliminated by your observations):

Size, Short bill, brownish plumage, bright orange legs, and ^{upper} tail covert pattern eliminates all other waders

18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?):

Yes, by K.V. Rosenberg (separate form w/ photos)

19. Previous experience with this species:

Seen once in 1982 in Santa Barbara, CA

20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification

a) at time of observation; No books used - Initially identified by K.V. Rosenberg

b) after observation: 1983 Natl. Geog. Birds of North America; Shorebirds

21. This description written from: X notes ^{tape-recorded} made during observation; _____ notes made after observation; _____ memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter:

Analy Kratt

24. Date and time of writing this account:

28 February 1990; 3:36 P.M.

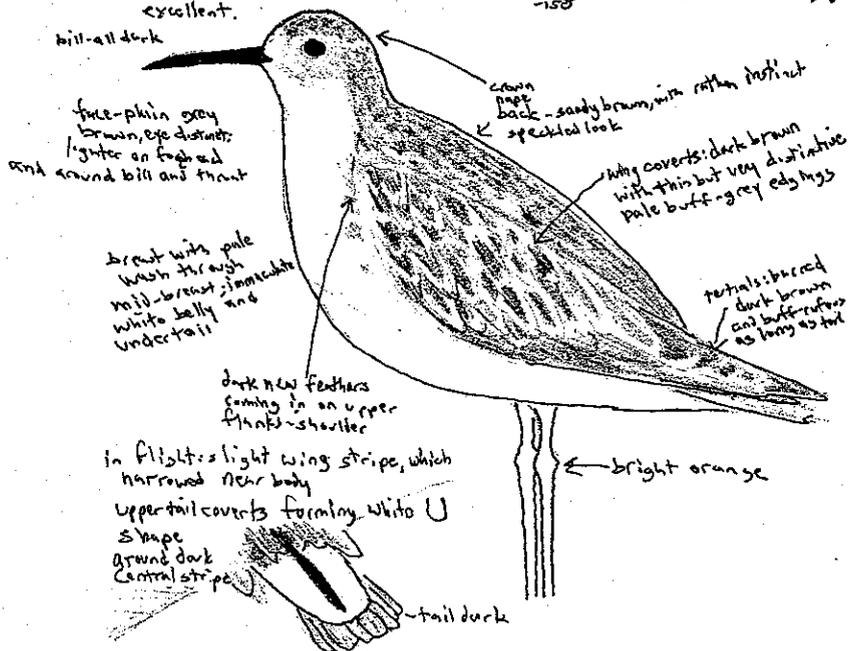
KRATTER,
A.W.
1990

Species Account

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*)

26 JANUARY: LOUISIANA; Acadia Par.; mi S. Crowley on Hwy 35
on W side of road.

Found by Ken Rosenberg in flooded field, initially with two Greater Yellowlegs. Same size as G. Yellowlegs; also seen with Killdeer and Lesser Yellowlegs - the Ruff was about 1.25-1.5 times larger than both of those species. Quite dumber than Yellowlegs, with larger body, and smallish (ovoid) head. Watched from 75 yards in 20-45x scope; light excellent.



watched for 1 or 15 minutes. Mainly slow-moving picking off surface or probing slightly white foraging

16. Vo

17. Si

Size, Sh
Other v

18. Ph

19. P

20. A

21. T

22. A

23.

24.

