

Louisiana Ornithological Society's
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 as necessary. Please print or type. Attach xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. **English and Scientific names:** Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa)
2. **Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage** (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): one adult in alternate plumage
3. **Locality: LOUISIANA:** Vermilion

(parish)

field on east side of Hwy 35, .75 mile south of junction Hwy 35 and Hwy 699.

(specific locality)
4. **Date(s) when observed:** May 11-12, 1994 (Reportedly present on May 13-15)
5. **Time(s) of day when observed:** May 11 from 1600 to 1800.
May 12 from 1400 to 1900.
6. **Reporting observer and address:**
Jim Holmes (504) 892-6714
801 Dove Park Rd.
Covington, LA 70433
7. **Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):**
May 11: none May 12: Paul Conover, David Patton, Steve Cardiff,
Donna Dittman, Nancy Newfield, Van Remsen,
Gary Broussard, Joe Kleinman, many other observers
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 to excellent. The bird was in a field on the east side of hwy 35 so the sun was to my back. Sky was clear to partly cloudy.
10. **Optical equipment (type, power, condition):**
1) Bausch & Lomb Elite binoculars, 8x42 -in good condition.
2) Kowa TSN-2 telescope 20x-60x -in good condition
11. **Distance to bird(s):**
50 to 150 yards
12. **Duration of observation:** May 11: about 2 hours,
May 12: about 5 hours
13. **Habitat:** partially flooded rice field with areas of standing water and exposed mud

14. **Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation** (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):
The bird spent the majority of the time feeding in the shallow water. Often when not feeding, the bird would stand upright on a six inch mud dike in the center of the field. It was seen in flight on both days.
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):

see attached description

16. **Voice:** Not heard

17. **Similar species** (include how they were eliminated by your observation):
1) Hudsonian, Marbled, and Bar-tailed Godwit- All three species of Godwits may be definitively ruled out by wing pattern.
2) American Avocet- This species ruled out by bill shape and lack of wing patch.
18. **Photographs or tape recordings obtained?** (by whom? attached?):
Slides of the Godwit are included.
19. **Previous experience with this species:** None

20. **Identification aids:** (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):
a. **at time of observation:** 1) Field Guide to the Birds of North America, National Geographic Society
2) Shorebirds an Identification Guide,
b. **after observation:** 2) The Facts on File Field Guide to North Atlantic Shorebirds,
21. **This description is written from:** x notes made during the observation (___notes attached?); ___notes made after the observation (date:___); ___memory.

22. **Are you positive of your identification if not, explain:** yes

23. **Signature of reporter:** _____ May 20, 1994 1645
(date) (time)

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT (*Limosa limosa*)

May 11-12, 1994

.8 mile south of the junction of Hwy 35 and Hwy 699, Vermillion Parish, LA

Observers: Jim Holmes, many observers on May 12

Description:

The bird was located in a large flock of shorebirds feeding in a partially flooded field. The other species of shorebirds in the field on May 11, with approximate numbers in parenthesis included Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*), (35); Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*), (2); Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*), (45); Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*), (30); Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*), (15); Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*), (26); Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), (14); Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*), (2); Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*), (26); White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fuscicollis*), (150); Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*), (175); Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*), (300); Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*), (150) and a Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*), (1). The Black-tailed Godwit was initially located in the northeast corner of the field. It flushed from this position and flew north away from the field as I approached closer attempting to photograph it. It returned to this field about ten minutes later and remained until a farmer began driving his tractor throughout the field. It was relocated the following day (May 12) when it flew into this field with a flock of 6 Hudsonian Godwits. It remained in this field for the rest of the day. It was seen and photographed in flight on several occasions on May 11.

The bird was studied while it was actively feeding. It would keep its legs straight and lower its head to a position just above the water as it probed in the shallow water with its bill. It would submerge two-thirds to the entire bill in the water while feeding. The tail was pointed upward while feeding which exposed the vent area. During the periods of time it was not feeding, it would often stand erect on a small mud dike in the center of the field.

General: It was a large shorebird with a body shape consistent with a Godwit species.

It was slightly larger than the largest Hudsonian Godwit in the field and considerably larger than some of the smaller Hudsonian Godwits. The legs were long (longer than any Hudsonian Godwit legs).

Bill: The bill was long and thick (longer and thicker than the bills of the Hudsonian Godwits). It was thickest at the base. The bill was straight and was not thought to have any curve in it. The outer third of the bill was dark whereas the inner two-thirds was pinkish orange.

Head: The head was chestnut-orange (The head and chest color was most reminiscent of a breeding plumaged American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*)). The forehead and crown were a darker brownish orange giving the bird a capped appearance. This "cap" was not prominent, being barely visible through the telescope. The supercilium was a significantly lighter orange than the crown but only slightly

lighter than the rest of the face. The lores were brownish orange and a brownish orange eye-stripe extended for a short distance behind the eye. The brownish feathers in front of the eye were broader than those behind the eye. This eye stripe was not prominent, being barely visible through the telescope. The chin was white.

Neck: The front and back of the neck was chestnut orange. The back of the neck had a few brownish feathers scattered across it.

Underparts: The upper breast was chestnut orange. This color began a rapid fade as it reached the lower portion of the breast. As the color faded, there was the beginning of some crescent shaped barring. The barring was most prominent on the flanks and was faintest at the center of the breast. The barring on the flanks ended just above the legs. The belly was white. The vent was white.

Back: The mantle feathers were grayish with slightly paler edgings.

Wings at rest: At rest, the wing coverts were gray-brown. The primaries appeared dark.

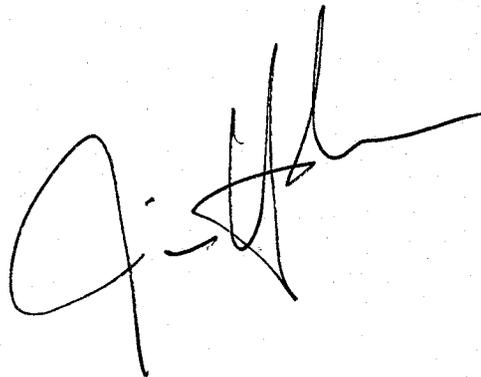
Upperwing in flight: The bases of the secondaries were white while their tips were dark. The primaries were all dark except for the bases of the inner primaries which were white. The outer primaries were all dark. This contrast between the white bases (to the secondaries and inner primaries) and dark tips gave this bird a very prominent wing stripe that was much more prominent than the Hudsonian Godwit's wing stripe.

Underwing in flight: The underwing was primarily white. The tips to the primaries and secondaries were dark. The leading edge of the wing was dark. This pattern gave the underwing an appearance of being white with a black border completely around the wing. The axillaries were white.

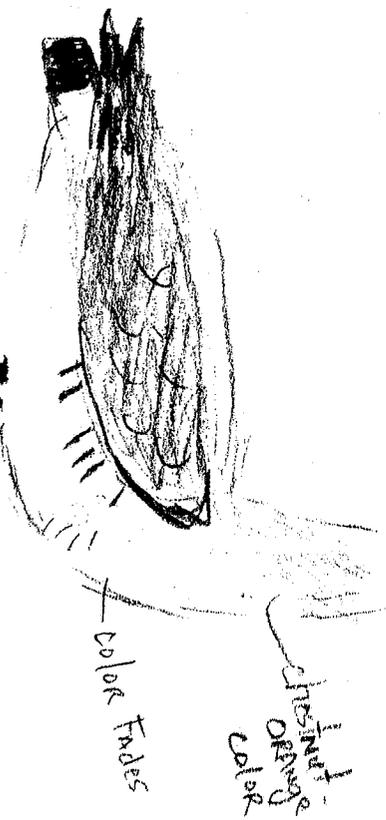
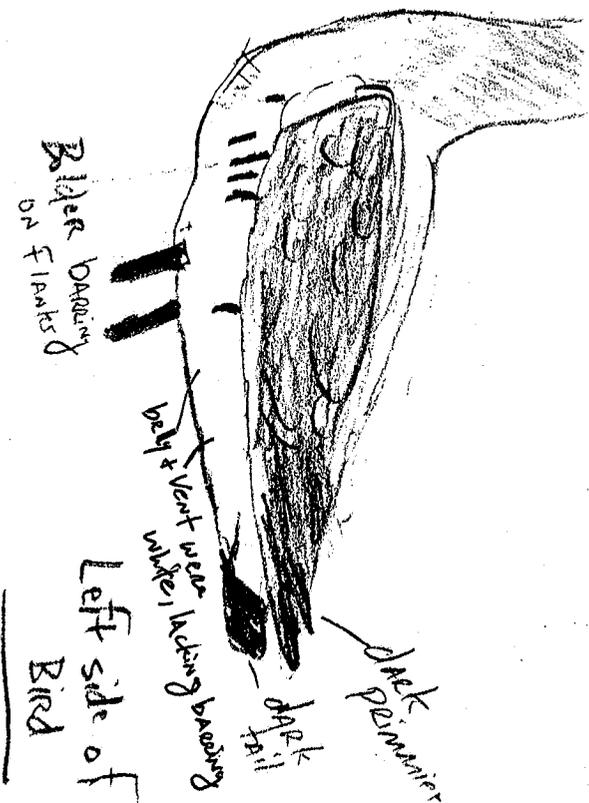
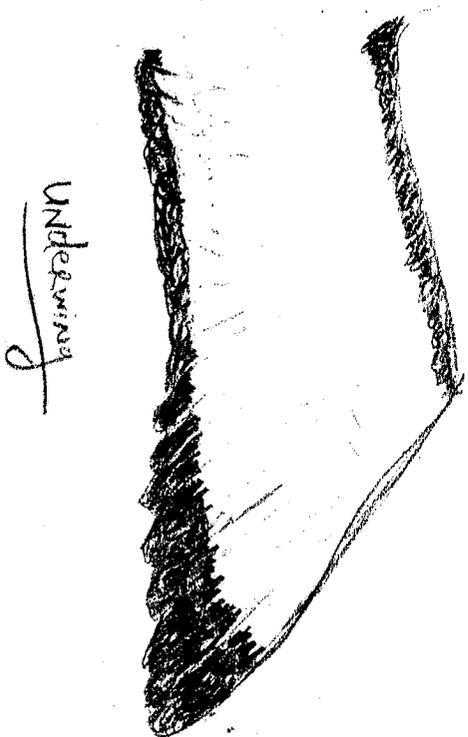
Rump: Rump was white.

Tail: The tail was black as seen from above and below.

Legs: The legs were dark, long, and in flight, they were noted to extend beyond the tail.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'G' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Black-tailed Godwit
Verwillow Marsh, LA



A-100

**SLIDE NUMBERS FOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF BLACK-TAILED GODWIT
TAKEN ON MAY 11, 1994**

1. Standing erect
2. Feeding, exposing vent
3. Standing
4. Standing
5. Landing, showing white underwing (photo out of focus)
6. Flight, showing upperwing pattern, white rump, and black tail
7. Flight, showing upperwing pattern, white rump, and black tail

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of species on the LBRC Review List. The LBRC recommends the use of this form or this format when submitting records for review (to assure that all information involving an observation is accounted for). Attach additional sheets if necessary. Please print or type. Attach drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos if an obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to: LBRC Secretary, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. English and scientific name: *Black-tailed Godwit*
Limosa limosa
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2ad. in breeding plumage):
3. Locality: LA state Vermillion parish @ 5 mi N of Kaplan
Field on E. side of Hwy 35 across from Vincent Ref. specific locality
4. Date(s) when seen: *May 12, 1994*
5. Times of day when seen: *2:00pm - 3:30pm & 5:00pm.*
6. Reporting observer and address: *Dave Patton*
122 memory Ln.
Laf. LA 70506
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:
Found by Jim Holmes - seen by many
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird:
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
11. Distance to bird: *150 yds*
12. Duration of observation:
13. Habitat: *Draining craw fish pond.*
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc. - include and stress any habits used in identification):

Probing mud with bill. Worked a small area rather than moving around alot. Appeared to hold bill open & pant from time to time.

15. Description (Include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen). Include if possible: total length or relative size compared to other species present or familiar species; body bulk; shape, bill, eye, leg and plumage characteristics. Stress features that separate it from similar species:

Same size as Hudsonian Godwits it fed with. Bill straight and bright orange from base to half way & then black to tip. Legs dark grey. Tail black w/white rump. Head, neck & upper breast was orange/brown similar to color of Avocet. Area above eye & cheek a little paler. Line from base of bill - through eye was dark. Crown a little darker. Back was dirty grey with a washed out scaled appearance. ~~Upper~~ ^{Lower} breast, belly,

16. Voice: & under rump was dull white with some incomplete ~~baring~~ barring. In flight - showed white under wing lining with

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

a black border all the way around the under wing.

Photos: All shot with Nikon 35mm camera w/50mm lens through a 30x eye piece on Nikon Fieldscope.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained (By whom? Attached?):

19. Previous experience with this species:

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

a) at time of observation:

b) after observation:

21. This description written from: notes made during observation; notes made after observation (date: _____); memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter:

24. Date and time of writing this account:

Dave Patton

TEXAS ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Texas Bird Records Committee
Report Form

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of rare or unusual birds. It may be used flexibly and need not be used at all except as a guideline. Attach additional sheets as necessary. PLEASE PRINT IN BLACK INK OR TYPE. Attach drawings, photos, etc., if possible. When complete, mail to: Greg W. Lasley, Secretary, Texas Bird Records Committee, 305 Loganberry Ct., Austin, TX 78745 or Dr. Keith Arnold, Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-2258. Thank you!

1. Common and scientific name: Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa* ? *limosa* ?)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, gen. plumage (e.g. 2 ad. in breeding plumage): 1 adult ♀
3. Location: Ricefield on east side of SH35 ~ 5 mi n. of Kaplan
County: Vermilion Parish, LA TX.
4. Date & time when observed: (Fri) 5-13-94 1510 - 1556
5. Reporting observer and address: Michael J Austin, Box 1184, Friendswood
TX 77546
6. Other observers: Robby Bacon, Lk Charles, Harvey Patten, Covington
7. Light conditions: Full, bright afternoon sunlight directly behind
observers
8. Optical equipment: 50X + 80X Questar telescope
9. Distance to bird: 150-250 yd
10. Duration of observation: 46 minutes
11. Habitat: (be specific): Feeding very actively in shallow water at edge
of muddy ricefield with Hudsonian Godwits, Short-billed Dowitchers
and White-rumped Sandpipers
12. Description: (Include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen. Include if possible size, body bulk, shape, bill, eye, and other characters, color, plumage pattern, etc. Describe voice, behavior, and anything else that might help to identify the bird.

Large, heavy, long legged + billed brightly colored shorebird. Bill fully 1/4 longer than adjacent ♀ Hudsonian Godwits. Longer legged + bulkier than latter species as well

Head: Crown dark. Face bright orange with ill-defined superciliary. Nape bright orange with black streaking, contrasting with gray mantle

Underparts: Throat + upper breast clear bright orange. Lower breast, belly + vent white with heavy black-flank streaks

Upperparts: Back feathers gray with reddish tint; dark centers. Coverts plain gray. Rump white

Retrices: Short, Black.

Wings: Upper gray with wide white wingstripe extending well onto bases of inner secondaries. Underwing immaculate white

Bill: Very long, very slightly upturned. Basal 2/3 bright orange, distal 1/3 dark

Legs: Long, black.

(Please see back)

description, continued:

Plain gray coverts would seem to indicate ♀ (albeit a bright one!)

Large size compared to Hudsonian Godwit + pale underparts with only a few heavy streaks confined to flanks would suggest largest, palest nominate subspecies from W. Europe (l.l. limosa)

13. How were similar species eliminated? Size, orange rather than chestnut basic color, lack of heavy streaking on rear underparts would eliminate Hudsonian Godwit. Wing stripe + immaculate white rump would eliminate Marbled + Bar-tailed Godwits
14. Was it photographed? By whom? Attached? Apparently by Jim Holmes 801 Dove Park Rd, Covington LA 70433 on May 12
15. Previous experience with species? None but extensive experience with Hudsonian, Marbled and Bar-tailed (L. lapponica baueri)
16. List any books or references used in identification:
- (a) at time of observation "Shorebirds: an identification guide" Hayman Marchant Prater
- (b) after observation _____ " _____ " _____ " _____ "
17. This description written from: ^{dictated} notes made during observation; _____ notes made after observation; _____ memory;
18. Are you positive of your identification? Yes If not, explain:

18. Signature of reporter along with date and time of writing this account:

Michael J. Austin mo 5-19-94 (1900)

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of species on the LBRC Review List. The LBRC recommends the use of this form or this format when submitting records for review (to assure that all information involving an observation is accounted for). Attach additional sheets if necessary. Please print or type. Attach drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos if an obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to: LBRC Secretary, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. English and scientific name: BLACK-TAILED GODWIT (*Limosa limosa*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2ad. in breeding plumage): 1, ADULT FEMALE, BREEDING PLUMAGE MOST LIKELY
3. Locality: LOUISIANA, VERMILION
state parish
LA 35 EAST SIDE OF ROAD FROM VINCENT REFUGE
specific locality
4. Date(s) when seen: MAY 12, 1994
5. Times of day when seen: 2:00-5:00 P.M. (CDT)
6. Reporting observer and address: J. P. KLEIMAN
15913 MALVERN HILL
BATON ROUGE, LA 70817
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:
BRUCE CRIDER
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird: Jim HOLMES, JR., M.D.B.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): GOOD LIGHT AT OUR BACK
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): ZEISS, 10X40 BINOC., BUSHNELL
30X SCOPE, KOWA TSN-4
11. Distance to bird: 50-200 YDS
12. Duration of observation: 3 HOURS
13. Habitat: A DRAINING, CRAYFISH POND
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc. - include and stress any habits used in identification): ACTIVELY FEEDING

15. Description (Include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen). Include if possible: total length or relative size compared to other species present or familiar species; body bulk; shape, bill, eye, leg and plumage characteristics. Stress features that separate it from similar species:

A LARGE SHOREBIRD, ~ SAME SIZE AS NEARBY HUDSONIAN GODWITS— LONG, MOSTLY STRAIGHT BILL, TWO-TONED ORANGE FOR MOST OF LENGTH, DARK TOWARD TIP— BILL SEEMS A LITTLE LONGER THAN THAT OF HUDSONIAN GODWIT— ORANGE, BUFF HEAD, NECK EXTENDING PERHAPS TO UPPER BREAST (WARM COLOR, CONTRASTING WITH DARKER COLORS OF HUDSONIAN GODWIT)— IN GOOD LIGHT COLOR IS BRIGHTER THAN SH.-BILLED DOWITCHERS NEARBY— BROWNISH EYE LINE, BROWNISH CAP— BROWNISH WINGS AND BACK— BLACK TAIL WITH CONTRASTING WHITE RUMP— BELLY & UNDERTAIL WHITISH, DARK BARRING ON SIDES OF BREAST— DARK LEGS— WHITE WING LINING AND WHITE

16. Voice:

NOT HEARD

WING BAR SEEN WHEN BIRD STRETCHED WING

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

HUDSONIAN GODWIT HAS DARK WING LININGS, OVERALL IS A DARKER BIRD

BAR-TAILED GODWIT HAS WRONG TAIL PATTERN, NO WING BAR

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained (By whom? Attached?):

JIM HOLMES, PAUL CONOVER, M.O.B. — NO

19. Previous experience with this species:

SAW IN ICELAND IN 1964

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

a) at time of observation: NAT. GEOGRAPHIC & SHOREBIRDS, AN ID GUIDE (HAYMAN, MARCHANT, PRATER)

b) after observation: NONE

21. This description written from: notes made during observation; notes made after observation (date: _____); _____ memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter: Joseph P. Kleiman

24. Date and time of writing this account:

JUNE 9, 1994 1:30-2:15 P.M.

5/12/94 J. P. KLEMAN

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT -

~ ~~150-200 YDS~~ 150-200 YDS

2:00 - 5:00

LARGE SHOREBIRD, ~ SAME SIZE AS

HUDSONIAN GODWIT

^{mostly} LONG, STRAIGHT BILL, TWO-TONED

ORANGE FOR MOST OF LENGTH,

DARK TOWARD TIP

ORANGE, RUFFY HEAD, NECK EXTENDING

PERHAPS TO UPPER BREAST (WARM COLOR)

IN GOOD LIGHT, COLOR IS BRIGHTER

THAN S.B. DOWITCHERS NEARBY

BROWNISH LINE THROUGH EYE, EYE LINE

BROWNISH CAP

BROWNISH ~~BAR~~ WINGS AND BACK

BLACK BAND END OF TAIL, WHITE RUMP

BELLY & UNDERTAIL WHITISH

B DARK LEGS

DARK BARRING ON SIDES OF BREAST

WHITE WING LINING (SEEN WHEN

STRETCHED WING OUT)

WING BAR SEEN WHILE PREENING

NOT GOOD LOOK

WING BAR SEEN WELL WHEN STRETCH

ED WING AT ~ 5:00 D'LOCK

BILL SEEMS LONGER THAN THAT OF

HUDSONIAN GODWIT

E

**REPORT TO THE
LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE**

1. Common and scientific name:
Black-tailed Godwit, *Limosa limosa*
2. Number of individuals seen, sexes, ages, general plumage, etc.
One bird, in adult nonbreeding plumage or adult female breeding plumage or something like that.
3. Locality:
Vermilion Parish, in a field about 0.7 or 0.8 miles south of the junction of LA Hwy 35 and LA Hwy 699.
4. Date(s) when seen:
May 13, 1994
5. Times of day when seen:
About 8:45 AM
6. Reporting observer and address:
John P. Sevenair, 325 Stafford Place, New Orleans, LA 70124
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:
None
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird:
I believe that the bird was first found by Jim Holmes, Jr.; it has subsequently been seen by many others.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and amount of light):
The day was clear and sunny. There were a few clouds; none covered the sun while I observed the bird. The morning sun was fairly low and within 45 degrees of the bird--that is, the sun was mostly behind the bird. Viewing conditions were as a result fairly poor.
10. Optical equipment:
Zeiss 7x42 binoculars.
Bushnell Spacemaster scope with 20x eyepiece.
11. Distance to bird:
100 to 150 yards
12. Duration of observation:
About two or three minutes total
13. Habitat (general and specific):
Shallow water in a crawfish pond that had been mostly drained.
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification):
The bird flew in from the west into my scope field, landed, and began to feed. It probed deeply in the mud under the shallow water, with a rapid up-and-down motion of the head ("sewing machine" motion). Then it flew fifty yards or so (while I observed it with my binoculars) to the left away from me and landed again. It was then flushed (along with all the other birds in the area) by a small motorboat in the next field to the north. This happened before I could find the bird in my scope again. I was unable to find it at all after that.

15. Description (Include 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.)

This was a large shorebird, quite a bit larger than nearby Black-bellied Plovers and dowitchers, and almost as large as nearby Whimbrels. It was more slender-bodied than the other shorebirds in the area.

The beak was long (longer than those of the Whimbrels) and straight or perhaps slightly upturned. The outer half of the bill was dark, and the half closer to the head was pinkish or orangish. (The lighting was bad and it was hard to see colors, but the bill had the bicolored pattern typical of godwits.) The head was quite small in relation to the length of the bill.

The neck was long for a shorebird, the body was slender in proportion to its length, and the tail appeared to be pointed when the bird was standing or walking. The legs were also relatively long for a shorebird, almost recalling one of the chunkier heron species rather than a shorebird. The lighting from behind made it impossible for me to tell the color of the legs.

The head and neck seemed more or less uniform in color and darker than the breast; I couldn't really tell whether the color was brown or gray. The back was brown. The breast, sides, and belly were white with little barring.

The bird had a prominent white wingbar on each wing, visible from above when the bird was in flight but not while it was sitting. These wingbars extended almost to the wingtips. The tail (seen when the bird landed) was square, and the upper surface had a single heavy black bar across the end. The area above the black bar was white. This white area was broader than the black bar.

16. Voice:

Not heard.

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

The bill was long and straight, unlike those of curlews. The bird was much larger than the dowitchers seen with it. The bill was bicolored like that of a godwit, and was too long and slender to be that of a Willet. The Willet is also more uniform in color and has a black-and-white wing pattern that is somewhat different. Willets are chunkier as well.

The wingbar and tail patterns were those of a Black-tailed Godwit rather than a Hudsonian Godwit. This bird didn't flock with the Hudsonian Godwits in the area, and I was unable to make any direct comparisons, but I carefully looked at several godwits that turned out to be Hudsonians before I found this bird, and I saw the Hudsonian Godwit pattern (weak wingbars, black area on tail tip broader than white area) on their wings and tail.

The bird was too slim and small to be a Marbled Godwit, and its belly was too pale. The Marbled Godwit also has no wingbars of the type seen on this bird. The Bar-tailed Godwit has fine barring on the end of the tail rather than a single heavy black bar.

18. Photographs:

I attempted none.

19. Previous experience with this species:

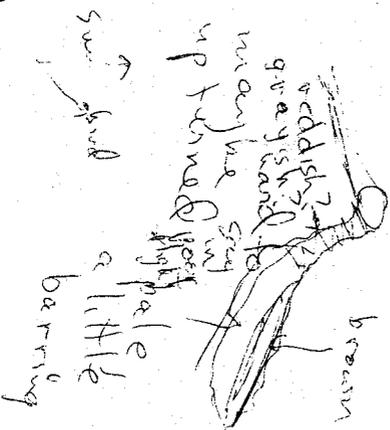
None at all. I've seen Marbled Godwits frequently in Louisiana on the coast, had Hudsonian Godwits present (not close to this bird but in the same field/pond) for comparison, and saw a Bar-tailed Godwit in Australia in 1991.

20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification
a) At the time of observation:
None at the time of observation. The bird was a stakeout, and I had descriptions of the plumage to look for from others. Two local people stopped and asked if the bird was still there. One gave comments on the bird's behavior as seen on the previous day.
b) After observation:
P. Hayman, J. Marchant, and T. Prater, *Shorebirds: an identification guide*.
21. This description written from: ____ Notes made during observation; x notes made after observation; x memory.
A copy of the notes is enclosed. They were made within a few minutes of the bird's departure.
22. Are you positive of your identification? yes If not, explain:
23. Signature of reporter:

24. Date and time of writing this account:
First draft finished at 11:30 PM on May 13, 1994; minor proofreading changes made on May 15.

Godwit: 845 AIX 21
WIS of 699/35cm
35, E side.

Long straight bill, dark outer 1/3, paler orange-pink inner 1/3.
Day clean, sun in eyes, wearing small hood.
Bigger than Bb Plover, sin than curlews, slenderer tail sewing-machine loop - probing feeding flier - long probing broad white on rump, broad white on tail tip



not seen in
Hudsonians
directly - # seen,
broader black than
white on tail
black
broader than on tail tip

Louisiana Ornithological Society's

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 as necessary. Please print or type. Attach xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. English and Scientific names: Black-tailed Godwit Limosa Limosa
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 ad. in alternate plumage
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: Vermilion
(parish)
Mouton Mini refuge
(specific locality)
4. Date(s) when observed: May 13, 1994
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 1 min. from total darkness
6. Reporting observer and address: Matthew Pontiff
742 Bill Churchman Loop
De Ridder, LA 70634
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Paul Conover, Gary Pontiff
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
Paul Conover
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): bird in open appr 1 min until total darkness
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
Kowa TSN 2 20-60x zoom good
11. Distance to bird(s): 50 yds scope
12. Duration of observation: 1 min
13. Habitat: Ricefield

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

Feeding w/ Hudsonian Godwits and Whimbrels. Was flushed by birders walking on private property & flew in to our position unnoticed.

15. **Description** (include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen; include if possibly: 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):

bird's bill was little longer & straighter than Hudsonian Godwits (HUGO). BTGO had a neck the color of an Avocet's in alternate plumage, white barred flanks. The BTGO lifted wings & showed whitish under wings.

16. **Voice:** none heard

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

Marbled Godwit wouldn't have white, barred flanks & white under wings. HUGO wouldn't be light enough & have white barred flanks

18. **Photographs or tape recordings obtained?** (by whom? attached?): no

19. **Previous experience with this species:** none

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

a. at time of observation: Peterson ~~etc~~ West, other birder

b. after observation: NG Birds of N.A.

21. This description is written from: ___ notes made during the observation (___ notes attached?); ___ notes made after the observation (date: ___); ___ memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter: Matthew Penick 6/15/95 2:53 p.m.
(date) (time)



Black tailed Godwit

5-12-94

Dave Patton



Black tailed Godwit

5-12-94

Dave Patton



Black tailed Godwit

5-12-94

Dave Patton



Black tailed Godwit

5-12-94

Dave Patton



Black tailed Godwit

5-12-94

Dave Patton