

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: White-winged scoter, *Melanitta deglandi*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 female - wounded
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: St. Bernard Parish
(parish)
Bayou Biloxi Wildlife Management Area
(specific locality)
4. Date(s) when observed: 12/29/02
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 3pm
6. Reporting observer and address: Patti Holland
337-981-1613
105 Eton Circle
Lafayette, LA 70508
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Andy Dolan, Quin Kinter
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
Andy Dolan
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Sunny
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Eagle Optics 8x42 binoculars
while bird in water & direct visual while in hand.
11. Distance to bird(s): In hand
12. Duration of observation: 3 minutes in hand; 5 minutes
in bayou
13. Habitat: bird swimming in bayou in ~~some~~ marsh
(brackish)

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

Bird was resting in canal. Bird was obviously wounded likely shot; was retrieved by dog in canal and observed in hand.

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 was approximately 20 inches in length, had ^{slightly} lighter belly, otherwise was dark grey/brown, except for white speculum and 2 white facial patches in front of and behind the eye. Bill was large and bulkier than canvasback

16. Voice: N/A

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Surf Scoter - no ~~white~~ white wing patch; Black Scoter - lacks white patches on head

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):

19. Previous experience with this species: Andy Dolan previously observed this species while working as a marine observer for NOAA in the Pacific Northwest, and while living near Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

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

- a. at time of observation: Kaufman field guide; Andy's previous knowledge of species, and Dept of Interior/US Fish + Wildlife Services
b. after observation: "Ducks at a Distance" waterfowl guide
Verified w/ National Geographic and Peterson Guides

21. This description is written from: ___ notes made during the observation (___ notes attached?); ___ notes made after the observation (date: 1/2/03); memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter: Patricia Holland, 1/2/03, 1pm
(date) (time)