

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: Curlew Sandpiper, *Calidris ferruginea*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1 male in nearly complete alternate plumage
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: (parish) Acadia Parish
Specific Locality: 4 miles east of Morse, LA, on LA Hwy 92.
4. Date(s) when observed: 4/29/02
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM
6. Reporting observer and address: Dave Patton, 122 Memory LN, Lafayette, LA 70506
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *Identified* the bird(s): Charlie Lyons
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Chris Witt (original finder), and team
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):
Clear skies and setting sun at our backs. Perfect light.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Scopes and binoculars
11. Distance to bird(s): Ranged between 100 and 150 feet
12. Duration of observation: 30 minutes
13. Habitat: Muddy rice field with some standing water

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

Followed instructions to the same location it was first seen by Chris Witt on 4/27/02. It was found in the field next to the original sighting. It was feeding, resting, and preening among several thousand other migrating shorebirds.

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):

Same size as the Dunlin it was feeding with. Bill dark and distinctly curved at the tip. Back was red, black, and tan flecked with some gray molting patches left. Face throat breast and upper belly was deep red with a little white scalloping. Under tail was white with a couple of small black and red spots. Superciliary area was a slightly paler red with a little white around the eye. A little white at the base of the bill. Legs dark.

16. Voice: None

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

See photo

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

Video taped through binoculars. Attached photo's are still frames captured from video. The contrast and brightness were adjusted to enhance details. *by DAVE TATTON.*

19. Previous experience with this species:

One time before.

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

a. at time of observation:

None

b. after observation:

National Geographic

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: Dave Tatton Date: 4/30/02 Time: 12:00 PM

Louisiana Ornithological Society's

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1. English and Scientific names: Curtlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage: 1, alternate plumage
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: Acadia Parish; ca 4 mi. E Morse; NE corner of intersection of rt. 92 x Homer Adams Rd.; 30.13°N, 92.48°W
4. Date(s) when observed: 4/28/02 (presumably same bird seen through at least 5/3/02)
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 1415 - 1445 h
6. Reporting observer and address: Christopher C. Witt, LSUMNS, 119 Foster Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Jason D. Weckstein, Daniel F. Lane
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): [Charles Lyons (video), et al. 29 April 2002]
9. Light conditions: Good, afternoon sun behind observers
10. Optical equipment: Swarovski AT-80 20-60x zoom; Leica televid 32x
11. Distance to bird(s): ca 75 m and briefly from ca 30 m
- 12.) Duration of observation: 30 minutes
- 13.) Habitat: rice field, recently drained with shallow water and mud
- 14.) Behavior of bird/circumstances of observation: We were scanning a very large flock of stilt sandpipers, Dunlin, and other shorebirds when we spotted this bird sleeping with bill tucked into feathers. Subsequently we saw the bird preening, stretching and walking with bill out.

11-2005

15.) Description: Body size similar to surrounding Dunlin, but legs slightly longer, breast and most of underparts brick red, with some narrow white edgings on breast and belly feathers. Vent white, with white extending up onto side of flank. Back and scapulars mostly blackish with golden-buff to brown edging, giving scaled effect; becoming brown on back of neck and crown. Face and throat reddish, with whitish area around base of bill, whitish supercilium set off by slightly darker brown eyeline and crown. Black bill approx. length of Dunlin bill, but more smoothly decurved rather than drooped, slender at tip. Underwing gleaming white. Seen in direct comparison with Dunlin and stilt sandpipers.

16.) Voice: NA

17.) Similar species and how they were eliminated: Not a Red knot because of long, slender, decurved bill, gleaming white underwing, brick-red color. Not a alt. plum. sanderling because of long slender decurved bill, longer legs.

18.) Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photographs taken in subsequent days by Dave Patton, Charlie Lyon; field sketch made during observation by Dan Lane attached.

19.) Previous experience with this species: I've seen a few individuals in Delaware and New Jersey, and several in Greece, but none for the last 8 years.

21.) Identification aids:

a. at time of observation: None

b. after observation: Sibley Guide

22.) This description is written from: notes made during the observation; notes made (immediately) after the observation (date: _____); or memory. Please attach copy of field notes.

23.) Are you positive of your identification if not, explain: Yes.

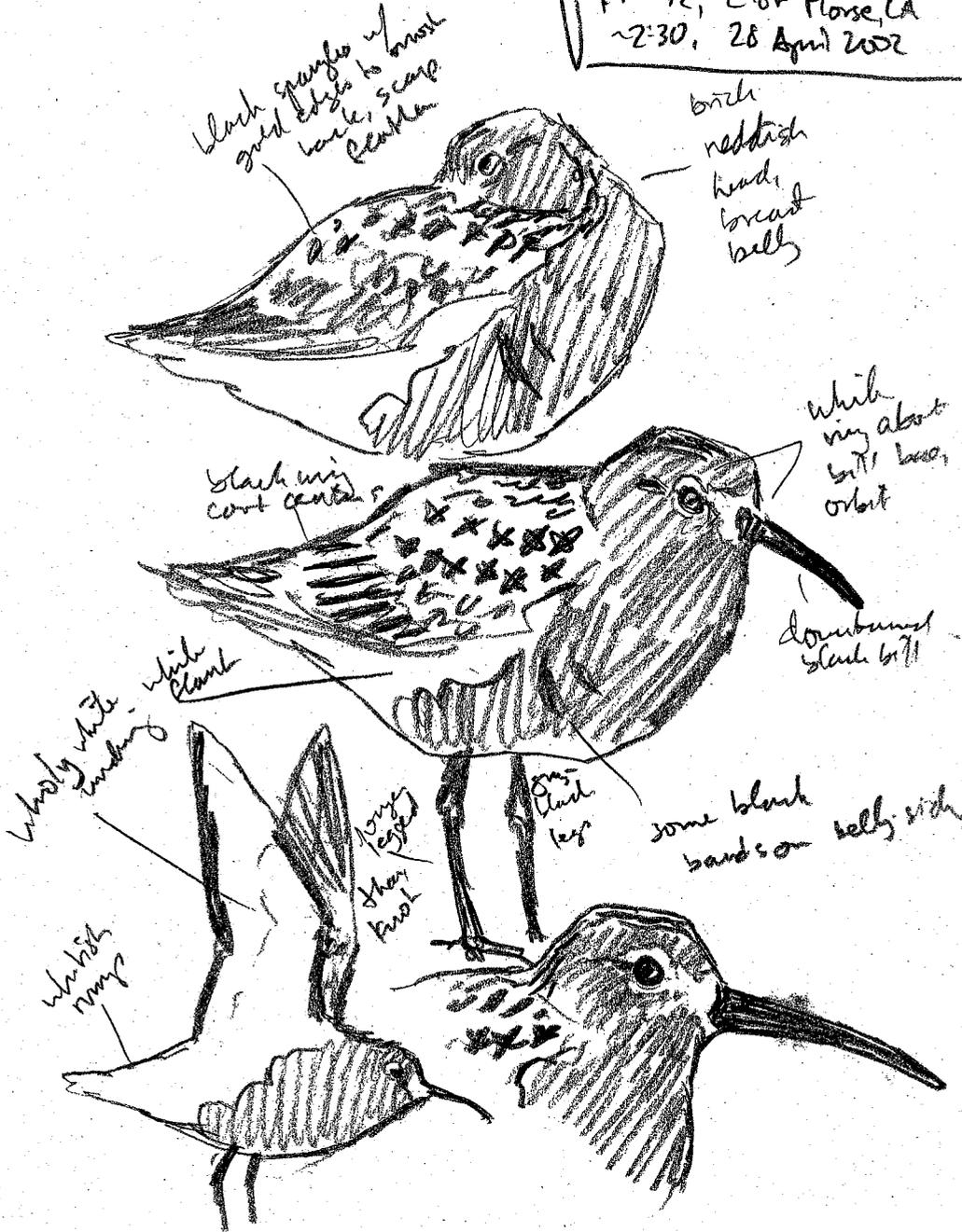
24.) Signature of reporter: [Signature] 4/29/02 1400h
(date) (time)

I agree with the above description [Signature] 7 May 02

I agree with above description [Signature] 12 May '02

large, taller than
Dunlin (52)

Cowbird Sandpiper
Homer Adams Rd off
Rt 92, E of Horse, CA
~2:30, 28 April 2002



Field sketch by Dan Lane
Done while observing bird through Leica 80mm, 32x scope at 75m.



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1. English and Scientific names: CURLEW SANDPIPER, *Calidris ferruginea*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 in alternate plumage 5/15/02
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: ~~VERMILION~~ DPK ACADIA
(parish)
LA 92 (NORTH SIDE) ABOUT HALFWAY BETWEEN HOMER ADAMS & ROY RDS
(specific locality)
4. Date(s) when observed:
2 MAY 2002
5. Time(s) of day when observed:
~ 9:30 AM.
6. Reporting observer and address:
JOSEPH P. KLEIMAN
15913 MALVERN HILL
BATON ROUGE, LA 70817
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
J. GUILLORY
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
BIRD ORIGINALLY FOUND BY J. WECKSTEIN, C. WITT & D. LANE
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): GOOD LIGHT, BIRD SLIGHTLY TO OUR LEFT, SUN TO RIGHT
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
LEICA TELEVID, 20 to 40X, GOOD, ZEISS 10X40 BINS
11. Distance to bird(s):
~ 30-40 YDS
12. Duration of observation:
~ 1 MINUTE
13. Habitat: A DRAINING FIELD (RICE I THINK, NOT A CRAWFISH POND)

14. **Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation** (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):
 BIRD FEEDING WITH A PROBING MOTION SIMILAR TO THAT OF DUNLIN - FLEW WHEN SOMETHING DISTURBED THE SHOREBIRDS AND WE COULD NOT RELOCATE IT
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):
 A DUNLIN-SIZED SHOREBIRD WITH A RELATIVELY LONG, BLACK DECURVED BILL (SLIGHTLY DECURVED WHOLE LENGTH OF BILL) UNLIKE THE LESSER DECURVATURE ON THE DUNLIN - HEAD AND UNDERPARTS A RICH, DARK RED, MUCH DARKER THAN THAT OF DOWITCHERS - WHITE UNDERTAIL COVERTS
16. **Voice:** NOT HEARD
17. **Similar species** (include how they were eliminated by your observation):
 DOWITCHER (SP) - COLOR MUCH RICHER, BILL LENGTH SHAPE DIFF, RED KNOT - BILL LENGTH, SHAPE DIFF. - BODY PROPORTIONS DIFF. STILT SAND. - UNDERPARTS DIFF, BILL SHAPE DIFF.
18. **Photographs or tape recordings obtained?** (by whom? attached?):
 ? CHARLES LYON GOT VIDEO I THINK
19. **Previous experience with this species:**
 SAW SPECIES ONCE IN LA IN SPRING, SEVERAL TIMES IN SPRING IN MICHIGAN & ONTARIO - ALSO SEEN A FEW TIMES IN EURASIA
20. **Identification aids:** (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):
 a. at time of observation: NONE
 b. after observation: NONE
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:** Joseph P. Kleiman 5/15/02 10:00 PM
 (date) (time)

Curlew Sandpiper
Acadia Parish, 4/29/02

Still frames from video
shot

By Dave Patton

