

Louisiana Ornithological Society's

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Report Form

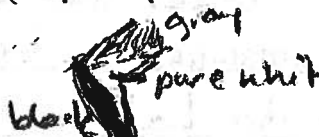
This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of species on the Louisiana Bird Records Committee (LBRC) Review List. The LBRC recommends the use of this form or a similar format when submitting records for review (to assure that all pertinent information is accounted for). Attach additional 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: *Sabine's Gull*
Xema sabini
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 adult non-breeding
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: LaSalle
Catahoula Lake (parish)
(specific locality)
4. Date(s) when observed: 10-11-2006
5. Time(s) of day when observed: ~ 12:00 PM
6. Reporting observer and address: William (Bill) Vermillion
128 Saint Charles Street
Lafayette LA 70501
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
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): Optimal, no shade, sun overhead.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss 10x40 binoculars
11. Distance to bird(s): ~ 50 yards
12. Duration of observation: ~ 30 seconds
13. Habitat: Dredged channel (depth 6 ft?), spoilbank
on S side vegetated in herbaceous veg, surround
by shallow water (1-6 inch depth)

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

Flying, appeared to be foraging; scanning water surface; relatively slow flight E to W

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):

Sitting in idle airboat. Noted gull. Upon inspection through binoculars mentioned to associates that I had a different gull. Black wedge from primary tips to leading edge of wing, white trailing edge of wing, gray back, lesser coverts, partial hood. No black edge on tail noted. Size similar to Bonaparte's / Franklin's Gull. Did not plunge dive. Neck white.  Noted suggestion of "eye line" in partial gray hood.

16. Voice: NA

(approx) left wing pattern

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

Black ~~bird~~ wing markings not "M" shaped as in Black-legged Kittiwake (seen once before)

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

19. Previous experience with this species:

Zero, except for study in field guides. However, that study was sufficient for me to determine that this was the likely species before consulting my guide in the field to confirm.

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

a. at time of observation: National Geo. Field Guide to Birds of NA.

b. after observation: Harrison Seabirds book, Sibley Field guide, TOS Handbook of TX birds, Lowery's Birds of LA

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: Will A. V.

(date)

(time)