

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: Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
one adult male in alternate plumage (presumed, based on plumage)
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: Terrebonne Par.; Isles Dernieres, E. end Whiskey Island
4. Date(s) when observed: 20 May 2010
5. Time(s) of day when observed: found about 9:45 AM.
6. Reporting observers and address: Steven W. Cardiff
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Dave Patton, Josh Soileau.
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): None.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):
good to excellent; clear day with mid-AM sun behind observers
10. Optical equipment (type, power, and condition): Leica 10 X 50 binocular – in good condition.
11. Distance to bird(s): as close as 50 ft.
12. Duration of observation: about 10 minutes.
13. Habitat: large open salt water pond towards the bay side of the island and close to the east end; surrounded by low black mangroves.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): first spotted by SWC sitting on water near aggregation of other shorebirds (Willetts, yellowlegs, dowitchers). Josh Soileau

was nearby so I called him over to take a look. Dave Patton was on the beach a couple hundred meters to the south, so I called him on the radio. Dave had a good camera and I only had a point and shoot on me at the time, so I obviously was hoping that Dave could get some identifiable photos. When I looked back towards the pond, the phalarope and the other shorebirds were no longer there- they had flushed while I was looking the other way. But, some, including the phalarope soon returned and Dave was able to get nice images.

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): Obvious phalarope sitting on water, with long, needle like bill, thin neck, small head, and plump body. Bird was very small in comparison to other nearby shorebirds. The bird was overall dark gray above with conspicuous reddish swaths running from the back of the supercilium and flaring down the sides of the neck to the sides of the upper breast. There were also some rusty stripes on the back. The throat was white and the lower foreneck and breast were white mottled with dark gray. Could not see the belly area, but the under parts were progressively whiter posteriorly with the under tail area and outer tail feathers clean white. Presumably a male in mostly full alternate plumage based on head and neck pattern. See photos for detail.

16. Voice: not heard.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Wilson's Phalarope would be larger and would have whiter breast and lack rusty back stripes.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, by Dave Patton, submitted separately to LBRC.

19. Previous experience with this species: have seen thousands in West and off North Carolina; have now see about half dozen in LA (mainly fall-winter birds), including one recently east of Grand Isle on 6 May 2010.

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):
None.

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

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

23. Signatures of reporters: _____ Date: 7 March 2011 Time: