

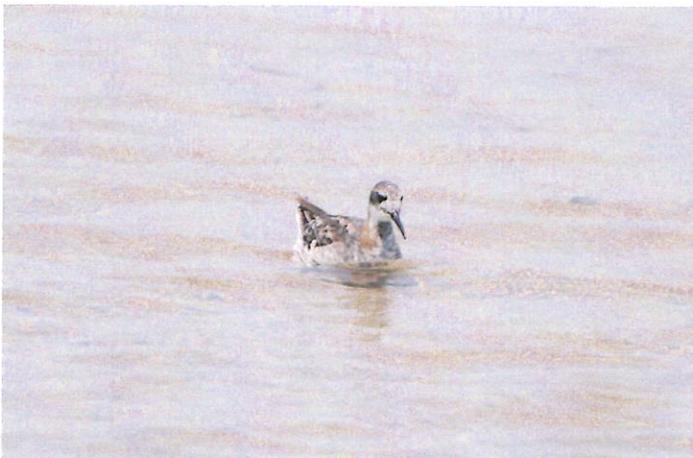
LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

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 male**
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: (parish) Plaquemines: Chaland Headlands, section between
Specific Locality: Bastian Island and Chaland Pass
4. Date(s) when observed: **6 May 2010**
5. Time(s) of day when observed: **1220-1230 hours**
6. Reporting observer and address: **Donna L. Dittmann & Steven W. Cardiff**
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): **NA**
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, sky clear, no clouds**
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): **10 X Leica binoculars**
11. Distance to bird(s): **as close as 10 feet**
12. Duration of observation: **DLD found the bird and spent the observation period observing and photographing the phalarope; called to SWC who came over to see it for about 2 minutes or so.**
13. Habitat: **Clear and shallow upper beach pool with *Salicornia* and *Spartina* clumps on edges.**
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):
Phalarope was feeding in the pool....swimming, some spinning. At one point it also waded briefly along the pool edges, then resumed swimming in search of food.

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): Small shorebird with long, thin, all black bill. Gray crown and nape. Blaze of rufous along neck; face black, throat white. Upperpart feathers mixed with gray
16. Voice: a soft "pick" and rusty, most with blackish centers. Chest and sides mottled gray and white. Underparts whitish. Rump blackish, seen in flight. Legs, feet gray.
17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Individual is mostly in breeding plumage-other phalarope species have completely different color/patterns.
18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes by DLD. See below.
19. Previous experience with this species: Very familiar with all phalarope species. No other shorebirds are similar in coloration or behavior.
20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification): none
- 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, to Tropical-Couch's complex.
23. Signature of reporter: Donald Duffman Date: 2 Feb 2011 Time: 3:30 PM
24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? yes
If yes, may we include your name with the report? yes



This bird is identified as a male by its generally muted breeding plumage colors (compared to females):

- 1) mottled gray crown and nape;
- 2) mottled rusty patch extending from check down neck;
- 3) buffy stripes on on back; and
- 4) mottled gray breast.

No other shorebird species shares these plumage characters.



During the course of this observation the phalarope spent most of the time searching for food while swimming - it was tame and unconcerned by DLD's presence. While it "spun" maybe two or three times, it mostly just swam around and picked organisms from water and plant surfaces. The photo below shows its relatively small size compared to a Semipalmated Sandpiper (left) and Dunlin (above).



