

**LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
RARE BIRD DOCUMENTATION**

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Species: Cory's Shearwater, *Calonectris diomedea*

Location: ca. 22 mi SE South Pass, Plaquemines Parish, Gulf of Mexico, 28.45 °N, 88.53 °W

Date: 10 September 2016

Time: 10:38 – 11:38 AM

Molt status: All seen well were molting primaries

Number of individuals: 14

Circumstances:

Pelagic trip on Delta Blue (Capt. John Coulon) with Chantal Correll, Terry Davis, Cathy DiSalvo, Rob Dobbs, Joan Garvey, Lynn Hathaway, Van Remsen, Christine Kooi, Marybeth Lima, Cham & Mary Mehaffey, Andre Moncrieff, David Muth, Mac Myers, Jane Patterson, Janine & Paul Robin, Ed Wallace.

Leg 3 of pelagic trip. Blue water, 25 flying-fish flushed. Mostly cloudy to cloudy; breezy; some light rain towards end of segment. (Boat was not equipped with water depth and temperature equipment, so these metric missing from all the lists.)

<https://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S31529080>

Description: Fourteen Cory's seen on this leg! Time stamp for the Scopoli's is in the file name.

Scopoli's – one. Time stamp 10:43. Definitely a different individual than the bird photographed earlier in the day, based on molt and feather patterns.

Unknown subspecies – thirteen, including one flock of ten seen together. This large flock also contained a Great Shearwater.

Time stamp 10:32 – one individual flushed off the water from a flock of Great Shearwaters. Only managed one poor photo.

Time stamp 10:55 – 11 individuals counted around this time, though I don't know how many I managed to photograph. Note that these photos also contain a Great Shearwater and a Bridled Tern. Ten for sure seen in one scan.

Time stamp 11:19 – one individual

All Cory's seen this day were identified based on the following characters. If we felt that we did not get good enough photos to see these characters, we left them unidentified to subspecies:

Scopoli's with extensive white tongues extending into the base of the underside of the primaries, thinner bill, paler and smaller head.

Borealis with solidly black primaries on the underside, thicker bill, darker and larger head



















