

# 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):  
**One in juvenal plumage**
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: (parish) **Cameron Parish**  
  
Specific Locality: **East end of Broussard Beach, ca. 2.75 mi. E of LeBleu Camp Rd./ PR-3183 beach access, ca. 3.5 mi. W of Rutherford Beach Rd. access, ca. 4 mi. SW of Oak Grove**
4. Date(s) when observed: **7 September 2019**
5. Time(s) of day when observed: **~3:15 PM CDT**
6. Reporting observer and address: **Devin Bosler  
13803 Crossing Way West  
Edmond, OK 73013**
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): **Justin Bosler**
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):  
  
**Clear sky with optimal mid-afternoon sunlight. Sun angle fairly high. Backlighting or glare not problematic.**

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): **Zeiss Victory FL 8x42 (good condition).**

11. Distance to bird(s): **within 100 meters**

12. Duration of observation: **~1-2 min.**

13. Habitat: **Sandy, muddy beaches and inshore Gulf of Mexico waters.**

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

**Only observed in flight. Steady, continuous flight from east to west just offshore from beach. Loosely associating with a Royal Tern (ROYT) carrying a small fish. Continued west out of sight.**

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):

**A small, tern-like gull with uniform brownish upperparts extending from head down through mantle. Strikingly bold black-and-white upperwing pattern seen well in flight. White underparts. Relatively small, dove-like head and smallish, delicate black bill. White, cleft-shaped tail with black distal band. Dark irides. Legs and feet not observed.**

16. Voice: **Silent. No vocalizations heard.**

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):  
**Distinctive. No similar gull spp. occurring in U.S.**

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): **Yes, digital photos obtained by Justin Bosler and attached.**

19. Previous experience with this species:

**Fairly experienced with this species from multiple encounters on the West coast (Pacific Ocean) and a handful inland throughout south and eastern U.S.**

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: \_\_**Yes**\_\_ notes made during the observation (\_\_\_\_ notes attached?); \_\_**Yes**\_\_ notes made after the observation (date:\_\_\_\_); \_\_**Yes**\_\_ memory.

22. Are you positive of your identification if not, explain: **Yes, definitely positive.**

23. Signature of reporter: **Devin Bosler** Date: **11 September 2019** Time: **7:00 PM CDT**

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? **Yes, please.**

If yes, may we include your name with the report? **Yes, please.**