

NEWSLETTER OF THE
LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
Annual Meeting Report 2020



This stunning male Black-capped Vireo (LBRC 2020-021) represents the first accepted state occurrence. It was discovered and photographed by Jane Patterson on 21 April 2020 in St. John the Baptist Parish. Unfortunately, its discovery coincided with the state-mandated COVID-19 Stay-at-Home order, so its discovery was not publicized and, sadly, the bird was never seen by other birders. See also p. 12 and 31.

Annual Report, October 13, 2020

Synopsis of the 2020 LBRC Annual Meeting

by: **Donna L. Dittmann, Secretary**
& **Steven W. Cardiff, Chair**

There wasn't one! The LBRC's 2020 Annual Meeting scheduled for 14 March 2020, was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members opted to conduct necessary business by email and decided to postpone scheduled Meeting discussion topics, including Discussion Round (fourth circulation) record review until 2021. Five records were slated for this Meeting and these, along with additional records that did not receive a deciding vote in recent e-rounds will be resolved at that time.

Other topics pushed to 2021 include re-evaluation of the identification of a Cordilleran Flycatcher (LSUMZ 162199, 8th Report of the LBRC) as a Pacific-slope Flycatcher based on plumage and

mensural data. Also on the agenda will be a continuing discussion of reducing the threshold for a species' inclusion on the Review List from the long-standing four occurrences per year averaged over a ten-year period.

Elections were held via email:

Member Elections

The terms of two Voting Members expired at the Meeting: **Daniel F. Lane** and **Steven W. Cardiff**. Both Members were nominated and unanimously re-elected to serve new four-year terms. **Chair Steven W. Cardiff** and **Secretary Donna L. Dittmann** were re-elected to new one-year terms.

Louisiana's First Occurrence of Baikal Teal ^{OH}



LBRC 1974-01

Forty-six years ago, on 7 November 1974, this Baikal Teal (above, LBRC 1974-01) was collected and donated to LSU-MNS. The record was reviewed by the charter LBRC in 1981 and was not accepted based on questionable origin (*1st Report of the LBRC*). All but one of the charter Members were concerned that the duck may have escaped from captivity and preferred to wait to see whether a pattern of vagrancy would develop; two Members suggested creating a state hypothetical list for this type of record, but this was never implemented. In 2008, LBRC 1974-01 was added to the slate of records to be reviewed at the Annual Meeting based on changes to the Bylaws: a record automatically re-circulates if it does not receive a unanimous vote during the first circulation (*8th Report of the LBRC*), and the adoption of the 'accept, origin hypothetical' designation (*9th Report of the LBRC*). There was also some additional information about vagrant records of Baikal Teal in North America. At the 2008 Meeting, the LBRC was 'fast-tracking record review' of records supported by hard evidence (photo, audio, or specimen). However, only records that receive a unanimous vote (accept or reject) are considered resolved during a Meeting circulation, and any other vote combination requires a record to circulate by (e)mail. The record did not receive a unanimous vote (*11th Report of the LBRC*) and was eventually re-circulated via e-round in 2020 and ultimately accepted 9-1 following its second circulation; five of nine Members accepted the record, 'origin hypothetical.' This represents the first and only occurrence of this species for Louisiana. The specimen was collected near the mouth of the Pearl River by James E. Lee (LSUMZ 80123; see also p. 5).

What exactly does "origin hypothetical" mean?

An occurrence is defined as of natural origin if, and only if, the probability of its arrival as a result of *human assistance* (either active or passive) is negligible. Records considered not acceptable on origin are those records for which the bird's origin is *known* or *highly suspected* to be human-assisted (e.g., escapes from captivity, human-assisted transport). Because proving human assistance for any particular individual bird or record may not be possible, the LBRC created the designation *origin-hypothetical*. The *origin hypothetical* designation is intended to be applied to records that are judged to have a relatively high probability of natural origin (species with range and natural history such that it *could be a good candidate for vagrancy or even already has a pattern of vagrancy*), but for which there is also at least a slight chance of man-assisted origin (species is known to be *kept in captivity*; e.g., waterfowl commonly housed in aviaries), or if there is at least circumstantial evidence to suggest that its occurrence may not be of natural origin. Records designated as *origin-hypothetical* will be so indicated by an appropriate symbol ^{OH} whether an individual record in an LBRC report, or on the State List for a first and only record, or when all records are so designated. Records designated *origin hypothetical* are considered accepted records. If you see a little ^{OH} after the name or an account - then that's what it means.

Twenty-third Report of the Louisiana Bird Records Committee

Donna L. Dittmann, LBRC Secretary & Steven W. Cardiff, LBRC Chair
format follows that of LBRC reports previously published in the *Journal of Louisiana Ornithology*

The Louisiana Bird Records Committee (henceforth LBRC or Committee) was established in 1979 to evaluate and archive records of unusual species that occur in Louisiana. The LBRC strives to determine record acceptability to aid in understanding the patterns of occurrence of rarities in the state. Each record (in the form of observers' written reports, copies of field notes, photographs, videotapes, audio recordings, or specimens) is reviewed by each of nine elected LBRC Voting Members (in accordance with LBRC Bylaws, *LOS News* No. 87; Bylaws last amended 12 March 2011 (revision pending) and viewable at <http://www.losbird.org>). Current LBRC Members in alphabetical order: Steven W. Cardiff, Paul E. Conover, John K. Dillon, Donna L. Dittmann, Robert C. Dobbs, Erik I. Johnson, Daniel F. Lane, Larry R. Raymond, and Casey Wright.

All records submitted to the LBRC are archived at the Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science (henceforth LSUMNS) and/or on the LBRC webpages. Records included in this report were resolved in e(lectronic)-Rounds 167, 169, 170, and one record overlooked from e-162. Two older records began circulation or are being recirculated, including one that was voted on by the inaugural set of LBRC Members. LBRC Members (past and present) who evaluated records contained in this report: Steven W. Cardiff, Paul E. Conover, D. Bruce Crider, Donna L. Dittmann, John K. Dillon, Robert C. Dobbs, Harland D. Guillory, James L. Ingold, Horace Jeter, Erik I. Johnson, Daniel F. Lane, Paul M. McKenzie, David P. Muth, B. Mac Myers III, Robert D. Purrington, Larry R. Raymond, J. V. Remsen, Alfred E. Smalley, James R. Stewart, and Casey Wright.

The *Twenty-third Report of the Louisiana Bird Records Committee* includes 163 records, of which the identification of 125 is accepted; and one is not accepted based on origin. The overall acceptance rate is 76% (compare to 69% in the *Twenty-second Report of the Louisiana Bird Records Committee*). This report completes review of records through 2019 and some of the 2020 records posted on the *View Pending Reports* section at the LOS LBRC website. Note that these pages may be re-populated if older submissions are subsequently received. The LBRC also continues to work through its backlog of never-reviewed older paper records contained in the LBRC files. Many of these records were held back from review because the LBRC was hoping to receive additional reports or photographs. Because no additional information has been forthcoming, these records will be reviewed with information currently in hand. The LBRC will strive to complete as many records as possible from the year preceding its Annual Meeting. We encourage observers to submit additional documentation for any records posted there or resolved in this report so that the LBRC files can be as complete as possible. Records completing review on the *View Pending Reports* page will be migrated to the *Photo and Record Gallery* page: <http://www.losbird.org/lbrc/reviewlist.html>.

The official State List total grows by two new additions to 485 species. Highlights in this report include the first records of Baikal Teal, Black-capped Vireo, and Yellow “Mangrove” Warbler; second state records of Western Gull, Chihuahuan Raven, and the southwestern subspecies of Brown-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus magister*). Also, the third accepted state occurrence of Golden-crowned Sparrow, and the fifth Connecticut Warbler. Updated State List can be found here: <http://www.losbird.org/lbrc/ReviewList.pdf>.

The Committee maintains and annually reassesses a *Review List* of species that have been confirmed at least once in the state. As per guidelines in the LBRC Bylaws, species qualify for the Review List if they average four or fewer *accepted* occurrences annually averaged over the preceding ten-year period. A species may remain on the *Review List* when the number of reports exceeds the threshold for “de-listing” when the LBRC has judged the difficulty of identification warrants keeping that species on the list or because the number of actual *accepted* records *on file* is substantially fewer than the total number of reports generated by the birding community. No changes were made to the LBRC Review List since the *22nd Report of the LBRC*. The *Review List* stands at 151 species, 31% of the State List. Seven subspecies or regional forms are on the Review List based on accepted records: Iceland “Thayer’s” Gull (*Larus glaucoides thayeri*), Great Blue “Great White” Heron (*Ardea herodias occidentalis*); Dark-eyed “Gray-headed” (*Junco hyemalis caniceps*), Pink-sided (*J. hyemalis mearnsi*), and “Oregon-group” (*J. hyemalis montanus*/Oregon group) juncos; Yellow-rumped “Audubon’s” Warbler (*Setophaga coronata auduboni*); and Yellow “Mangrove” Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*

erithachorides/Mangrove group). The current *Review List* can be found on p. 20 or online: <http://www.losbird.org/lbrc/ReviewList2019.pdf>.

Breeding documentation for exotic species is requested to monitor colonization or expansion of range in Louisiana (e.g., Monk Parakeet), as well as to record presence or status of other potential introduced species.

Records in this report are organized in taxonomic order as per the 7th edition of the *Check-list of North American Birds* (American Ornithologists' Union [AOU] 1998), including changes through the *61st Supplement to the American Ornithological Society's Check-list of North American Birds* (2020). The *61st Supplement to the American Ornithological Society's Check-list of North American Birds* (2020) results in a few changes to the Louisiana list, most affect list order. Family order within Suliformes are shifted to Fregatidae, Sulidae, Anhingidae, and Phalacrocoracidae; also, species order of our cormorants is flipped, so Double-crested is now before Neotropic. Species order is shuffled in families Phasianidae (Wild Turkey comes first); and Rallidae (Clapper, King, Virginia, Sora, Common Gallinule, American Coot, Purple Gallinule, Yellow Rail, and Black Rail). Within the genus *Selasphorus*, list order changes to Calliope, Rufous, Allen's, and Broad-tailed. Finally, the common name of McCown's Longspur is changed to Thick-billed Longspur. The updated State List can be found at the LBRC website here: <http://losbird.org/checklist.pdf>.

Within each species account, records are arranged chronologically. Where possible, individuals for each record are identified by age and plumage. Accepted records include name of submitting observer(s). As per LBRC policy, submitting observers are not listed for records that are not accepted (including those by origin). The following abbreviation follows the observer's name if documentation is submitted in the following form(s): photographic (ph), audio (for a voice recording), specimen (LSUMZ), or autopsy data (preparator initials and prep number). If more than one observer submitted a report and the original discoverer(s) is known and included among them, then their name is **boldfaced**. If the discoverer is named in another report or otherwise known but he/she did not submit a report, then they are mentioned at the end of the record entry. eBird submissions do not constitute an LBRC submission unless referenced in an observer's LBRC long form. If an eBird list includes *an identifiable photograph* that extends a record's date range but is not submitted as part of a report to the LBRC, then the eBird list reference is acknowledged but not the eBirder's identity. If photographic documentation *is discovered* on a Facebook or other webpage and supports a date extension, then a reference is included. Note that the LBRC does not routinely monitor these pages searching for supporting record documentation. Please also note that a link to a shared eBird list does not automatically grant the LBRC use of other observer's photos contained in that report. When submitting a report where additional material can be found on online pages or forums, then please provide a link so that it is included officially in the record's file.

LBRC records are archived at the Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science (LSUMNS) and on the LBRC webpage server(s). All specimens reported herein are housed at LSUMNS unless otherwise specified. For archival purposes, the LBRC will accept additional reports/documentation or corrections for any record that has been resolved. If this documentation contains information that could alter the original outcome of a record, then the record will be re-circulated with that 'new' information. Abbreviations used: approx. (=approximately); Blvd. (=Boulevard); Dr. (=Drive); Hwy. (=Highway); Ln. (=Lane); mi. (=mile/miles); NAB (=journal *North American Birds*); Rd. (=Road); SP (=State Park); St. (=Street); WMA (=Wildlife Management Area). Compass directions are abbreviated and capitalized with no period (e.g., W = west of). Parish names are italicized. Latitude and longitude are given as decimal degrees. Translations of some locality names to standardized versions: "Sureway Woods" =TNC Landry-LeBlanc Tract, Grand Isle, *Jefferson*; "Johnson Bayou" or "Johnson's Bayou" =Johnsons Bayou, *Cameron* (used here and in previous LBRC reports); "Peveto Beach Woods" or "Peveto Woods Sanctuary" =Baton Rouge Audubon Society Peveto Woods Sanctuary at Johnsons Bayou, *Cameron*.

The LBRC sincerely thanks all individuals who submitted rare bird reports or contributed expert advice for records included in this report: Heather Amuny, Amanda Anderson, Katie Barnes, Jeff Barnhill, James W. Beck, Rrik Beck, Andrew Bell, Maria Bellue, Jacoby Bernard, Bonnie Taylor Berry, Wendy Wilson Billiot, Laurence C. Binford, Devin Bosler, Justin Bosler, Roger J. Breedlove, Ned Brinkley, Gary Broussard, Paige Byerly, Steven W. Cardiff, Gayle Clement, Matt Conn, Paul E. Conover, Eric Cormier, Terry Davis, Sandra DeHart, John K. Dillon, Cathy DiSalvo, Donna L. Dittmann, Danny Dobbs, Robert C. Dobbs, Sean Duffy, Jonathan L. Dunn, Kenneth M. Eyster, Thomas Finnie, William Fontenot, Mitchell Foret, Andrew From, Joan Garvey, Sidney A. Gauthreaux, Derek Gay, R. Martin Guidry, Tad Guidry, Dale Hamilton, Carolyn B. Hennesy, René Henry, David O. Hill, James F. Holmes Jr., Jay V.

Huner, Erik I. Johnson, Oscar Johnson, Linda Kingsland, Joseph P. Kleiman, Mark Klym, Daniel F. Lane, James E. Lee, Tom Ledet, Justin Lehman, Paul E. Lehman, Stephen M. Locke, Charles E. Lyon, D. Bradford Macurda Jr., Michael C. Mahoney, Samuel Manning, Curtis A. Marantz, William H. Matthews, Burt L. Monroe Jr., Lisa Moreland, Michael J. Musumeche, B. Mac Myers III, John Nelson, Nancy L. Newfield, Dan O'Malley, Kathleen O'Shaughnessy, A. W. Palmisano, Dave Patton, Jane Patterson, Jonathan Patzlaff, Gary J. Pontiff, Malise Prieto, Robert D. Purrington, J. V. Remsen, Kathy Rhodes, Janine Robin, Stephen M. Russell, Renee Sawyer, Jessica Schulz, Charlotte Seidenburg, Vicki Sensat, John P. Sevenair, Michael A. Seymour, Julie Shieldcastle, Ronald J. Stein, Paul Sunby, Malcolm Mark Swan, Thomas A. Sylvest, Thomas Trenchard, University of Southern Mississippi Migratory Bird Research Group, Noel Venezia, William (Bill) Vermillion, Phillip A. Wallace, Wayne L. Watkins, Melvin Weber, Kiah Williams, Walker Wilson, Jon Wise, Christopher C. Witt, Albert Wolfson, Bill Wood, and T. J. Zenzal.

The following records were accepted:

Baikal Teal (*Sibirionetta formosa*) **OH**

One immature male (1974-01) on 7 November 1974, *St. Tammany*: 1 mi. W English Lookout near mouth of Pearl River; James E. Lee (LSUMZ 80123; photo p. 2 by Donna L. Dittmann). This record was reviewed in 1981. All but one Member voted not to accept based on questionable origin and two Members suggested the species should be added to a hypothetical list, of which one did not exist at the time. The outcome was published in the *10th Report of the LBRC*. Due to a combination of changing attitudes regarding origin, the LBRC's subsequent addition of the option to "accept, origin hypothetical," as well as some additional information about patterns of vagrancy, the record was added to the first circulation record review during the 2008 Annual Meeting. As per LBRC policy, because the record did not receive an unanimous vote (*11th Report of the LBRC*) at the 2008 Meeting, the record was shelved pending a new full circulation. Recirculation eventually occurred during early 2020 and the record was ultimately accepted on the second circulation by an 8-1 vote, with five of eight accepting Members designating it as "origin hypothetical." This represents the first and only record of this species for Louisiana.

White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*)

One immature male (2019-029) on 11 February 2019, *Iberia*: Spanish Lake, SE corner; Robert C. Dobbs (ph, p. 22). Reportedly found by Eric Ripma two days prior.

One female (2019-020) on 23 March 2019, *Lafourche*: Hwy. 1, 1 mi. E Port Fourchon; William H. Matthews.

Two (2020-010) on 1 February 2020, *Jefferson*: Metairie, S. shore of Lake Pontchartrain, E of the levee access point at Transcontinental Boulevard and Folse; **Jon Wise** (ph, p. 22), James Beck, Linda Kingsland (ph only), Rrik Beck (ph only). Date range from photos in eBird spans 1-8 February.

Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*)

One (2020-005) on 12 January 2020, and likely the same individual on 24 January 2020; *St. Tammany*: Howze Beach and pond next to the Convention Center; Janine Robin (ph), Thomas Trenchard (ph), Glenn Ouset (ph only, p. 22), and Renee Sawyer (ph only). Date range from photos in eBird spans 11-24 January, reportedly originally found by Wanda Beelman.

Inca Dove (*Columbina inca*)

One (1984-067) on 24 October 1984, *Iberia*: Spanish Lake; Michael J. Musumeche. This species was removed from the Review List on 25 April 1986.

Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*)

One male (2019-022) on 13 April 2019, *Cameron*: Johnsons Bayou, Peveto Woods Sanctuary; Paul E. Conover (ph, 22).

Vaux's Swift (*Chaetura vauxi*)

Three (2019-021) on 9 April 2019, *East Baton Rouge*: Baton Rouge, River Bend at Farr Park; Daniel F. Lane. See also eBird checklist for photo and recording by Marky Mutchler (photo p. 22; <https://eBird.org/view/checklist/S54766162>).

Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*)

One adult male (2002-091) on 1 February 2002, *East Baton Rouge*: Baton Rouge, 1817 Michael Delving (residence of Lisa Wigg); Laurence C. Binford. Report indicates homeowner said bird was present since fall 2001. This species was removed from the Review List 7 September 2002.

Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cyananthus latirostris*)

One immature male (2008-079) on 19 October 2008-26 January 2009, *East Baton Rouge*: Baton Rouge, 223 Kimbro Drive, residence of **Sally and Mike Allen**, N 30.3717°, W91.1236°; Nancy L. Newfield (banded, N98985) and Joan Garvey (ph only, p. 23).

One male (2016-070) on 26-27 December 2016, *St. John the Baptist*: LaPlace, 800 Fagot Loop; N30.0724°, W90.5027°; Stephen M. Locke (banded K26611; ph p. 23, banding report).

One immature female (2018-083) on 27 November 2018 to at least 10 January 2019, *St. James*: Gramercy, 3210 North Millet Road; Nancy L. Newfield (banded, #T79999) and J. V. Remsen (ph only, p. 23).

One immature (2019-060) on 27 November 2019, *Lafayette*: Lafayette, 117 Washitta Road, residence of **Jeanne Plaisance**; Erik I. Johnson (ph p. 23, banded M51904). Homeowner reportedly discovered bird previous day. The bird was seen and photographed by Katie Barnes during the Lafayette CBC, and by the homeowner many more times into early 2020.

Buff-bellied Hummingbird (*Amazilia yucatanensis*)

One (1987-066) on 24 October 1987, *Cameron*: Hackberry Ridge, 2 mi. WSW Johnsons Bayou School; Michael J. Musumeche. This species was removed from the Review List 28 April 1988.

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*)

One (2013-077) on 26 April 2013, *Cameron*: Rutherford Beach Road, approx. 1.4 mi. from intersection with Trosclair Road, N29.768987°, W93.130017°; **Michael A. Seymour** (audio) and Dan O'Malley. This record was initially reviewed and considered not accepted in the 18th Report of the LBRC. It was recirculated and accepted following receipt of additional documentation.

One (2019-024) on 15, 20, and 26 April 2019, *Cameron*: Lighthouse Road at mouth Sabine River; Daniel F. Lane (ph p. 23, audio provided to the LBRC for review), Oscar Johnson, and Matthew L. Brady (audio only).

Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*)

One (2018-093) on 30 December 2018, *Lafourche*: Lake Boeuf; Jessica Schulz and Tom Ledet (ph only). This represents the third state record and the second from this location where the species was first detected in Louisiana.

Family group with one adult and 4 juveniles (2019-030) on 9 June 2019; likely involves one to three individuals reported in 2019 at the same site between 11 March and 17 October 2019; *Terrebonne*: Lake Houma, vicinity of North Hollywood Road; Samuel Manning (ph. p. 23), Mitchell Foret (ph), Kathy Rhodes (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XjlsG18YfAM&feature=youtu.be>), and Joan Garvey. This represents the second year that Limpkins are present at this locality and second confirmed breeding record for the state (see also LBRC 2018-020 in 22nd Report). Ongoing, well-documented occurrence. eBird shows from 1-5 individuals continued to be reported to 26 October 2019, with many photos including on 26 October (<https://eBird.org/view/checklist/S60959089>).

One (2019-078) on 20 March 2019; *Terrebonne*: Lake Houma from St. Louis Canal Road; Paul Sunby. This likely involves one of the same individuals present on Lake Houma and more regularly seen from North Hollywood Road. It has been separated here due to the different locality.

Two (2020-006) on 16 January 2020; *Terrebonne*: N. Hollywood Road, Lake Houma; Kathy Rhodes (ph); this is the third year these birds have been present since first reported 31 January 2018 (2018-020; 22nd Report of the LBRC).

On 15 and 18 April 2020, Kathy Rhodes documented the pair with five chicks (ph, p. 23), which represents the third successful breeding attempt at this site.

Five, family group with two adults and three juveniles (2020-002) on 14-15 February 2020, *Terrebonne*: Turtle Bayou, vicinity N29.571954°, W91.040127°; **Donna L. Dittmann** (ph, p. 23) and Steven W. Cardiff.

One (2020-030) on 18 May, and then four heard in the area on 11 June with video obtained on 19 June 2020, *St. John the Baptist*: Maurepas WMA, near intersection of Mississippi and Dutch bayous, N30.178097°, W90.603715°; **Sean Duffy** (ph, p. 23) and Justin Lehman (audio). This is about 45 mi. N Lake Houma in a vast area of potential

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*)

One first year (2015-088) on 6 January and 4 February 2015, *Caddo*: Shreveport, Cross Lake; Charles E. Lyon (ph, p. 25). The bird was reportedly found by Aidan Place on 23 December 2014.

One (2019-070) on 18 April-8 June 2019, *Jefferson*: beach at Elmer's Island; Jonathan Patzlaff (ph), Kiah Williams (ph, p. 25), and Joan Garvey (ph).

One first year (2019-032) on 9 and 15 May 2019, *Terrebonne*: Isle Dernieres Barrier Islands Refuge, Whiskey Island, approx. N29.050551°, W90.858944°; Amanda Anderson (ph) and Paige Byerly (ph only, p. 25).

One first year (2020-026) on 10 April and presumably the same individual on 20 May 2020, *Cameron*: Rutherford Beach; B. Mac Myers III (ph) and Thomas Finnie (ph only, p. 25); and Robert C. Dobbs (ph). The 20 May record was documented six weeks later and about 8 mi. east of the original sighting; comparison of photos indicate that the same individual is involved.

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*)

One first year (2011-020) on 15 March 2011, *Plaquemines*: Grand Terre Islands, East Grand Terre Island; Justin Bosler (ph, p. 25).

One first year (2016-006) on 29 January 2016, *East Baton Rouge*: Zachary, W. Irene Road landfill; J. V. Remsen (ph, p. 25).

Kelp Gull (*Larus dominicanus*)

One adult (1994-037) on 26 June 1994, *St. Bernard*: Chandeleur Islands, Breton-Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Curlew Island; Charlotte Seidenberg (ph, p. 26). Photos also document another adult dark-mantled gull, which was first hypothesized by D. L. Dittmann as a Kelp X Herring hybrid.

Four, three definitive adults and a third-year (1994-115) on 23-24 July 1994, *St. Bernard*: Chandeleur Islands, Breton-Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Curlew Island; Donna L. Dittmann and Steven W. Cardiff (ph, p. 26), and Charles E. Lyon (ph, p. 26).

One adult (1995-037) on 8 August 1995, *St. Bernard*: Chandeleur Islands, Breton-Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Curlew Island; John P. Sevenair. No photos or video submitted.

Two adults (1997-093) on 17 June 1997, *St. Bernard*: Chandeleur Islands, Breton-Delta National, one offshore between Freemason and Curlew islands, and one on Curlew Island; Donna L. Dittmann. The Curlew individual was paired to a hybrid Kelp X Herring gull.

One fourth year/adult male (1998-128) on 9 June 1998, *St. Bernard*: Chandeleur Islands, Breton-Delta NWR, South Gosier Island; Steven W. Cardiff (LSUMZ 165987) and Donna L. Dittmann (DLD 6144, ph, p. 26). This is the first and only specimen for Louisiana and North America. The genetic identity of this individual was confirmed by Pierre André Crochet (mtDNA cytb) and Sarah A. Sonsthagen (mtDNA control region and nuclear introns).

Two adult females (1998-111) on 9-10 June and 13-14 July 1998, *St. Bernard*: Chandeleur Islands, Breton-Delta

Kelp Gull in Louisiana

There are 14 accepted occurrences of Kelp Gull for Louisiana. Records included in the *23rd Report of the LBRC* concludes review of all submitted Kelp Gull records. When we reported on the ongoing Chandeleur Islands colonization event in 1998 (*LOS News 181*), we could not imagine that Kelp Gulls would soon vanish from the state. From 1989 to 2000, Kelp Gulls were known to be breeding on the southern Chandeleur Islands. The disruption to breeding colonies in 1998, resulting from land loss from Hurricane Georges, undoubtedly impacted the the breeding population of large gulls. There was very limited recruitment to the population, and *no pure pairs* were documented after the 1994 season. Even though chicks must have been produced by the original pair to at least 1994, after that time breeding Kelps were paired to hybrids or Herring Gulls. No pure Kelp Gulls have been reported on the islands since breeding season 2000.

All but three of the state's Kelp Gull records are during the breeding season and from the Chandeleur Islands. A non-Chandeleur record from offshore (1999-021) in all likelihood involved the same individuals (based on wing patterns) later observed as breeders that same summer on the Chandeleurs Islands. There are two records from Rutherford Beach, *Cameron* (1992-87 and 88) in June 1992, which likely involved the same individual (*18th Report of the LBRC*). When documented individuals are tallied (*no chicks of pure pairs were ever documented*), a conservative count of Kelp Gulls yields about twelve individuals.

Hybrid Kelp X Herring gulls, fondly referred to as "*Chandeleur Gulls*" still persist on the Chandeleur Islands as of early 2020. Pure Kelp Gulls are still being reported in Yucatán, Mexico with eBird records as recently as 25 April 2019: <https://eBird.org/checklist/S58506816>.

For more information on Louisiana occurrence and identification of Kelp Gulls and hybrids see Dittmann and Cardiff 1998, 2005.

—Donna L. Dittmann & Steven W. Cardiff

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Kelp Gull (*Larus dominicanus*) - cont.

National Wildlife Refuge, Curlew Island; Donna L. Dittmann and Steven W. Cardiff. These individuals were both paired, one to a hybrid Kelp X Herring Gull, and one to an apparent pure Herring Gull.

Two adults (1999-021) on 17 April 1999, *Gulf of Mexico*: 15 mi. S Port Fourchon; **Donna L. Dittmann** and Steven W. Cardiff, R. Martin Guidry (ph, p. 26), Robert D. Purrington, Curtis A. Marantz, John P. Sevenair (ph, p. 26), and Phillip A. Wallace (ph only). A third bird present and photographed was identified as an F1-type Kelp X Herring hybrid. This is the only accepted record of Kelp Gull from Louisiana's offshore waters.

One fourth year male (1999-108) on 11 June 1999, *St. Bernard*: Chandeleur Islands, Breton-Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Curlew Island fragment; Donna L. Dittmann and Steven W. Cardiff (ph).

One second year immature (1999-134) on 7 September 1999, *St. Bernard*: Chandeleur Islands, Breton-Delta National Wildlife Refuge, north Curlew Island sand bar; D. L. Dittmann and Steven W. Cardiff.

One adult male (2000-104) on 2 August 2000, *St. Bernard*: Chandeleur Islands, Breton-Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Curlew Island; Donna L. Dittmann and Steven W. Cardiff.

Great Shearwater (*Ardenna gravis*)

One in juvenal plumage (2018-094) on 15 September 2018, *Gulf of Mexico*: Mississippi Canyon at Continental Shelf break, N28.6309°, W89.1627°; Devin Bosler and Justin Bosler (ph only, p. 27).

Cory's Shearwater (*Calonectris borealis*)

Two (2019-072) on 11 July 2019, *Gulf of Mexico*: approximately 83 mi. SE Southwest Pass Mississippi River on Carnival Cruise ship *Glory* 8.17.19 Leg 23 of 25 at N27.762°, W88.924°; James F. Holmes.

Masked Booby (*Sula dactylatra*)

One subadult (2019-058) on 3 November 2019, *Cameron*: Peveto Woods Sanctuary; Oscar Johnson (ph). Reportedly first spotted by Johnson and Marky Mutchler (ph only, p. 27. See also <https://eBird.org/checklist/S61165128>. This species was removed from the Review List 25 September 1999 but the Committee reviewed this record out of courtesy following its submission. This is one of very few onshore records and not associated with tropical weather.

Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*)

One adult (2020-007) on 20-21 January 2020, *Jefferson*: on private property W of Waggaman; Mark Klym (ph, p. 27). This species was removed from the Review List 10 March 2018 but the Committee reviewed this record out of courtesy following its submission.

One immature (2020-019) on 20 March 2020, *Orleans*: New Orleans, City Park; Derek Gay (ph, p. 27). This observation was originally reported to eBird as a Red-footed Booby; an eBird reviewer advised the observer to submit a formal report to the LBRC. The observer complied, but shortly thereafter the eBird reviewer realized that the bird was actually a Brown Booby. The observer was notified of the re-identification and corrected the eBird entry but did not withdraw the LBRC report. The Committee reviewed the report as a courtesy and all Members agreed that the identification was consistent with Brown Booby and not Red-footed Booby.

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)

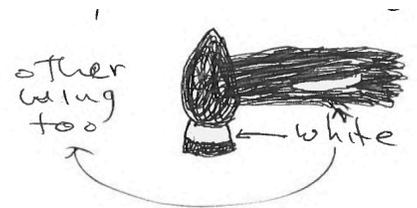
One (2001-103) on 9 December 2001, *Morehouse*: Upper Ouachita NWR, Mollicy Unit; Malcolm Mark Swan (ph only, p. 27). Published in *NAB* 56(2):184.

One immature (2001-047) on 14 December 2001, *Jefferson Davis*: Goose Island Road, about 2 1/2 mi. S of Hwy. 14; John P. Sevenair (included sketch, right)..

Two immatures (2001-046) on 14 December 2001, *Cameron*: Lacassine NWR, Pool Unit; Joseph P. Kleiman. This record appears in *NAB* 56(2):184.

Two immatures (2019-049) on 2 November 2019, *Cameron*: vicinity of Willow Island, 7 mi. E Cameron; Paul E. Conover (ph) and Oscar Johnson (ph, p. 27). eBird checklist: <https://eBird.org/checklist/S61179992>.

One immature (2019-079) on 2 November 2019, *Cameron*: Peveto Woods Sanctuary; Daniel F. Lane and Ned Brinkley (ph only, p. 27, see <https://eBird.org/checklist/S61134527>). This may be one of same individuals seen about an hour earlier and 23 mi. E at Willow Island.



2001-047

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) - cont.

One immature (2019-056) on 3 November 2019, *Cameron*: Willow Island, 7 mi. E Cameron; Oscar Johnson (ph, p. 27). See also <https://eBird.org/checklist/S61165244>. Possibly one of two individuals seen at same locality previous day.

One (2020-023) on 24 January 2020, *Morehouse*: Upper Ouachita NWR, Mollicy Unit, Shop Road; Jeff Barnhill (ph, p. 27).

White-tailed Hawk (*Geranoaetus albicaudatus*)

One adult (2018-088) on 4 January 2018, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, along Hwy. 1; Herman Callais Jr., (ph, p. 28). Record presumably pertains to the same Grand Isle individual accepted previously, 2017-045 (21st Report of the LBRC).

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*)

One (2001-037) on 14 December 2001-9 February 2002, *Jefferson Davis*: Arceneaux Road, 2 mi. W Hwy. 99;

Christopher C. Witt, Joseph P. Kleiman, Gary J. Pontiff, and M. Mark Swan (ph, p. 28). This record appears in *NAB* 56(2):185.

Brown-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*)

One (2019-052) on 8 December 2019, *Cameron*: Willow Island, 7 mi. E Cameron; Paul E. Conover (ph), Dave Patton (ph only), and Phillip A. Wallace (ph only, p. 28).

One (2019-057) on 31 December 2019 to at least 5 January 2020, *Orleans*: New Orleans, Bayou Sauvage NWR, Ridge Trail; Michael C. Mahoney (ph, p. 28), John Nelson, and Joan Garvey (ph only, p. 28). A bird photographed at this location 17-18 January is considered a different individual (not yet submitted for review: <https://eBird.org/view/checklist/S63520427>). Photographs on additional eBird lists from this location may also represent different individual(s), e.g. 28 January 2020 seems to have slightly shorter central rectrices (<https://eBird.org/view/checklist/S63884109>), and the last report/photos on 18 February appears to have a relatively petite bill (<https://eBird.org/view/checklist/S64736332>). The LBRC would appreciate receiving additional reports to help resolve these records.

One *M. t. magister* (2020-011) on 2 February 2020, *Plaquemines*: Triumph, Morel's Woods; Daniel F. Lane (ph, p. 28). Reportedly first spotted by Michele McLindon. Photos appear in eBird lists: <https://eBird.org/checklist/S64090105>. There is only one previously accepted specimen record of *M. t. magister* (two individuals) for Louisiana; all other accepted Louisiana occurrences have involved *M. t. cooperi* (or at least presumably so).

Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes luteiventris*)

One (2019-043) on 13 October 2019, *Cameron*: Willow Island, 7 mi. E Cameron; Paul E. Conover (ph, p. 28, LSUMZ).

Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)

One immature male (2019-081) on 30 December 2019, *East Baton Rouge*: Baton Rouge, Capitol Lake; Oscar Johnson (ph, p. 29) and Joan Garvey. Reportedly first found by Jayne Willingham and first photographed (see <https://eBird.org/view/checklist/S62723539>) on 28 December 2019, last reported/photographed 2 February 2020 (see <https://eBird.org/view/checklist/S64132912>).

One (2020-018) on 15-29 February 2020, *St. John the Baptist*: Turtle Cove Research Center (Manchac WMA), 0.2 mi. S Pass Manchac; Jane Patterson (ph, p. 29), Cathy DiSalvo (ph, right on 29 February), Janine Robin (ph), and Malise Prieto (ph). Photos in eBird to 3 March 2020.



Tropical/Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus/couchii*)

One (2017-097) on 23 December 2017, *Orleans*: New Orleans, South Point Levee; Robert D. Purrington (ph, p. 29).

One second year (2019-054) on 27 April 2019, *Cameron*: Sabine NWR, Wetland Walkway on Hwy. 27 about 7 mi. N Holly Beach; Donna L. Dittmann (ph, p. 29) and Steven W. Cardiff. Reportedly originally found by other observers previous day. This silent individual was still submitted as an outright Tropical based on perceived long bill. But, following a third circulation, four Members would accept only as complex.

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Tropical/Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus/couchii*) - **cont.**

One (2019-017) on 23 May 2019, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, Grand Isle State Park; Mitchell Foret (ph, p. 29). Although submitted as a Couch's based on observer's interpretation of vocalizations, five Members would only accept to complex.

One (2019-039) on 5 October 2019, *Calcasieu*: Sulphur, 1601 Anita Street; Vicki Sensat (ph, p. 29).

One (2019-067) on 12 October 2019, *Jefferson Davis*: Illinois Plant Road in the vicinity of Oil and Gas facility just before entering refuge; Andrew From (ph, p. 29). This record was submitted as a Couch's Kingbird and, although voice was described, all but two Members believed the description and photographs did not rise to the necessary threshold to accept as species, forcing it to be accepted as complex only. There's a possibility that this was the same bird subsequently reported by others about a mile away inside the refuge (see 2020-013 below).

One (2020-016) on 12 January 2020, *Terrebonne*: Theriot, Lower Bayou Dularge; Wendy Wilson Billiot (ph, p. 29).

One (2020-029) on 17-18 May 2020, *Cameron*: Johnsons Bayou, Peveto Woods Sanctuary; Jacoby Bernard (ph), Maria Bellue (ph only, p. 29), Heather Amuny (ph only), and Dale Hamilton.

Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus couchii*)

One (2019-046) on 26 October 2019, *Vermilion*: Campbell Road, 3 mi. S Wright; Paul E. Conover (ph, p. 29).

One (2019-063) on 17 December 2019, *Vermilion*: approx. 8 mi. W of N. terminus of Doc Road, N29.860419°, W92.393928°; Michael A. Seymour (ph, p. 29).

One (2019-062) on 1 and 15 December 2019; and likely the same individual 24 February 2020, *Calcasieu*: Sulphur, Choupique Road; Vicki Sensat (ph, p. 29) and Joan Garvey (ph).

One (2020-013) on 8 January 2020, *Cameron*: Lacassine NWR, Pool Unit, near work sheds; Michael J. Musumeche (ph, p. 29). Reportedly found on 4 January 2020 by Bill Wood. There's a possibility that this was the same bird initially reported about a mile away at the refuge entrance (see 2019-067 above).

Gray Kingbird (*Tyrannus dominicensis*)

One (2019-026) on 11-12 May 2019, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, LDWF kayak launch off Ludwig Lane; Bill Vermillion, Kimberley Hollier (ph only, p. 30), and Bruce Cervini (ph only).

Up to three (2020-028) on 30 April 2020, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, vicinity of W. end Louisiana Avenue; Michael J. Musumeche (ph, p. 30).

One (2020-032) on 30 April-6 May 2020; *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, near fork of Hwy. 1 and Admiral Craik Drive; Rosemary Seidler (ph, p. 30).

Western Wood-Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*)

One immature male (2019-037) on 21 September 2019, *Cameron*: vicinity of Cameron; Paul E. Conover (ph, LSUMZ) and Donna L. Dittmann (DLD 11749, ph, p. 30).

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*)

One male (2011-150) on 13 June 2011, *Bossier*: Red River, 0.4 mi. N East Texas Street Bridge; Jay V. Huner. This species was removed from the Review List on 14 March 2015.

Pacific-slope Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis*)

One adult male (2020-004) on 12 January 2020, *Iberville*: 4 mi. N St. Gabriel, 435 Pecan Drive; **Steven W. Cardiff** (LSUMZ) and Donna L. Dittmann (DLD 11741, ph p. 30).

Pacific-slope/Cordilleran "Western" Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis/occidentalis*)

One (2020-022) on 15 January-14 February 2020, *Plaquemines*: Braithwaite subdivision and vicinity of Caernarvon Diversion levee and canal, N29.8582786°, W89.9109936°; James W. Beck, Linda Kingsland (ph only, right), and James F. (Jim) Holmes (photo and audio, p. 30). Reportedly found by Robb T. Brumfield and reported (with photos) in eBird to 14 February 2020.



Black-capped Vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*)

One male (2020-021) on 21 April 2020, *St. John the Baptist*: 1.1 mi. S. Ruddock exit on I-55 in the tree line between Hwy. 51 and the raised interstate; Jane Patterson (ph, p. 1 and 31). eBird list: <https://eBird.org/checklist/567586773>. This represents a first state occurrence.

Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*)

Ten adults (2000-084) between 29 May and 17 June 2000, *Caddo*: NE of the township of Mira; Terry Davis. Bell's Vireo was removed from the Review List on 15 March 2015.

Yellow-green Vireo (*Vireo flavoviridis*)

One (2019-023) on 13 April 2019, *Cameron*: Grand Chenier; University of Southern Mississippi Migratory Bird Research Group and Julie Shieldcastle (ph only, p. 31).

One (2019-075) on 26 May 2019, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, Exxon Fields; Joan Garvey (ph, p. 31).

Black-whiskered Vireo (*Vireo altiloquus*)

One female (1957-012) on 26 April 1957, *Cameron*: 3.5 mi. E Cameron; Albert Wolfson (LSUMZ 22064). Specimen identified as subspecies *V. a. barbatulus*. This represents the first accepted occurrence for Louisiana.

One male (1961-013) on 18 March 1961, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, 0.8 mi. E corner of Coast Guard Station; Sidney A. Gauthreaux (LSUMZ 23781). This represents the second specimen for Louisiana and one of only two specimen records of nominate subspecies *altiloquus*.

One male (1963-005) on 5 May 1963, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle; Stephen M. Russell (LSUMZ 32228). Specimen identified as *V. a. barbatulus*. This represents the third specimen for Louisiana. Specimen label says pair, one collected.

One male (1963-006) on 17 August 1963, *Orleans*: New Orleans, Paris X Morrison roads; A. W. Palmisano (LSUMZ 31221). Specimen identified as *V. a. barbatulus*. This represents the fourth specimen for Louisiana.

One male (1964-010) on 26 April 1964, *Cameron*: 3 mi. E Johnsons Bayou; Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (LSUMZ 32930). Specimen identified as *V. a. barbatulus*. This represents the sixth specimen for Louisiana.

One female (1966-007) on 30 April 1966, *Cameron*: Peveto Beach Woods, 5 mi. E Johnson Bayou School; A. W. Palmisano (LSUMZ 51251). Specimen identified as *V. a. barbatulus*. This represents the seventh specimen for Louisiana.

One female (1970-017) on 26 April 1970, *Cameron*: Cameron; Kenneth M. Eyster (LSUMZ 155577, originally USL 501) and Tim Hebert (preparator). Specimen identified as *V. a. altiloquus*. This represents the ninth specimen for Louisiana and the second of nominate subspecies *altiloquus*.

The above represent seven (all study skins, see photo p. 31) of the first nine specimen records from Louisiana. There are two additional unreviewed specimens from the 1960's, one a skeleton and one a life mount. The LBRC anticipates review of these other specimens in the near future. See also Remsen et al.(1996) for records through 1994.

Subspecies of Louisiana Black-whiskered Vireos.

Two subspecies have been recorded in Louisiana based on examination of LSUMNS specimens. Five are identified as *barbatulus* and two as *altiloquus*.

V. a. barbatulus ranges closest to Louisiana, breeding in central Florida southward to Florida Keys and the Dry Tortugas. Its range also includes the Bahama Is., Cuba (including Isle of Youth), Little Cayman I., and Cayman Brac; *barbatulus* winters in the Amazon Basin. This subspecies is relatively small, especially in bill length, and has a dull gray crown and a poorly defined (or lacking) dusky line along lateral edges of crown bordering supercilium. The supercilium is distinct and whitish with faint buff tinge, especially over lores. The back and rump are dull olive with a grayish tinge (less olive on rump in Florida populations). The central underparts are white. This subspecies appears most similar in size and proportions to a Red-eyed Vireo. It is the most likely subspecies to anticipate breeding in Louisiana.

Larger *V. a. altiloquus* breeds on Jamaica, Hispaniola, Puerto Rico, and the Greater Antilles (except where *barbatulus* breeds). This subspecies winters in N. South America. In addition to Louisiana, vagrants have been recorded from Florida. Compared to *barbatulus*, the bill is longer, the crown is suffused buff-olive, and the lateral line of the crown is indistinct. The supercilium and auriculars are strongly tinged buff, and throat and upper breast are slightly tinged buff. It is greenish olive above and the median under parts are dull whitish. Whether the two subspecies can be reliably identified from photographs alone is not clear. Certainly, some of the LBRC photo-documented records and those included in this report are at least suggestive of one or the other subspecies.

Black-whiskered Vireo (*Vireo altiloquus*) - cont.

One (1984-065) on 24 April 1984, *Cameron*: Johnsons Bayou, Johnsons Bayou Woods; Ronald J. Stein.

One (2001-018) on 6 May 2001, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, TNC Landry-LeBlanc Tract; Phillip A. Wallace and B. Mac Myers III.

One (2020-027) on 26 April 2020, *Iberia*: about 2 1/2 mi. SE Lydia, N29.889092°, W91.764267°; Matt Conn (ph, p. 31).

One (2020-031) on 30 May 2020, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle State Park; Kathy Rhodes (ph, p. 31). Seen by many observers and reportedly present and photo-documented in eBird from 25 May <https://eBird.org/checklist/S69674341> to 12 July 2020 <https://eBird.org/checklist/S71411072>.

Chihuahuan Raven (*Corvus cryptoleucus*)

One (2019-032) on 12 May 2019, *Cameron*: Rutherford Beach; Paul E. Conover (ph, p. 31) and Dave Patton (ph, p. 31). This represents the second accepted Louisiana occurrence.

Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*)

One (2019-050) on 7 November 2019, *Beauregard*: DeRidder, Beauregard Regional Airport; Jay V. Huner (ph, p. 32). Reportedly first found by Gary Pontiff.

Lesser Goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*)

One immature male (2019-055) on 26 March 2019, *Vernon*: Leesville, 1700 Aaron Street; Lisa Moreland (ph, p. 32). This represents the fifth accepted state occurrence.

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*)

One male (2019-028) on 10-11 February 2019, *Lafayette*: Oakridge Drive; **Kathleen O'Shaughnessy** (ph only, p. 32) and Paul Conover (ph). Reportedly discovered by Chuck Broussard.

Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*)

One immature (2020-009) on 25 January – at least 10 March 2020, *Bossier*: Bossier City, Red River NWR headquarters; **Bill Wood** (ph, p. 32), Michael Musumeche (ph, p. 32), John Dillon (ph), Jay V. Huner (ph), Robert C. Dobbs (ph), Dave Patton (ph only), Phillip A. Wallace (ph only), James Beck, and Linda Kingsland (ph only).

Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*)

One adult male (2018-090) on 29 December 2018 to at least 19 February 2019, *Lafayette*: Lafayette, 101 Hal Street, residence of Jack and Rose Must; Paul E. Conover (ph, p. 32), Robert C. Dobbs (ph), and Oscar Johnson (eBird checklist photos: <https://eBird.org/checklist/S52943969>).

Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*)

One male (2017-036) on 18 February 2017, *Plaquemines*: Venice (“The Jump”); J. V. Remsen (ph, p. 32).

Two males (2019-018) on 23 May 2019, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, Grand Isle State Park; Mitchell Foret (ph, p. 32).

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*)

One male (2019-031) on 5 May 2019, *Cameron*: Oak Grove, Oak Grove Sanctuary; Robert C. Dobbs (ph, right and p. 33).



MacGillivray's Warbler (*Geothlypis tolmiei*)

One adult male (2019-076) on 1 March 2019, *Orleans*: New Orleans, City Park, Couturie Forest; Joan Garvey (ph, p. 33). Presumably, this was LBRC 2018-028 (22nd Report of the LBRC) returning for a second winter. Photo-documented to 26 March: <https://eBird.org/view/checklist/S54275851>.

One female or immature male (2019-038) on 25 September 2019, *East Baton Rouge*: Baton Rouge, Richfield Riversilt; Oscar Johnson (ph, 32). Reportedly found by J. V. Remsen previous day. Still present and photographed on 26 September (see <https://eBird.org/view/checklist/S60208037>).

MacGillivray's Warbler (*Geothlypis tolmiei*) - cont.

One immature (2020-001) on 8-21 February 2020, *East Baton Rouge*: Baton Rouge, Mississippi River levee just S of I-10 bridge, N309.4336851 °, W91.1914218°; **Oscar Johnson** (ph., p. 32) and Erik I Johnson (ph). Last photographed 27 February (see <https://eBird.org/view/checklist/S65221061>).



Yellow "Mangrove" Warbler (*Setophaga petechia erithachorides-group*)

One first year male (2017-096) from 20 December 2017 through at least 24 March 2018, *Jefferson*: Grand Isle, on trails near LDWF building on Ludwig Lane; David P. Muth (ph; report includes photos in eBird lists by Joan Garvey [ph, p. 33], Daniel F. Lane, and J. V. Remsen, as well as a recording by Daniel F. Lane), Erik I. Johnson, and Cameron L. Rutt (ph, right 24 March 2018). Christina Riehl reportedly discovered the bird. This is the first accepted occurrence of this subspecies.

Yellow-rumped "Audubon's" Warbler (*Setophaga coronata auduboni-group*)

One (2019-042) on 13 October 2019, *Vermilion*: 2 mi. W Perry; Sandra DeHart (ph, p. 33).

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Setophaga nigrescens*)

One female (2019-044) on 18 October 2019, *St. Landry*: Sunset, 564 Sunset Strip; Erik I. Johnson.

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

One adult male (1984-064) on 28 April 1984, *Cameron*: Cameron, E. side of town; Ronald J. Stein. This species was added to the Review List in 1989, with hopes that the LBRC would be able to also capture older records preceding the date; it was removed on 16 March 2013.

Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*)

One female (2019-069) on 10 February 2019, *Plaquemines*: Diamond; Daniel F. Lane (ph, p. 34). Two individuals were initially reported to eBird (but not to LBRC) on 3 February 2019 (see <https://eBird.org/view/checklist/S52366563>, one photo-documented in eBird to 16 February 2019 <https://eBird.org/checklist/S52785451>).

One female-type (2019-065) on 22 December 2019 to at least 1 January 2020, *St. Tammany*: Slidell, 309 Rue Piper; Noel Venezia (ph, p. 32).

One female-type (2019-066) on 22 December 2019, *Cameron*: overgrown lot E Cameron; Gary Broussard (ph, p. 34).

One (2019-051) on 30-31 December 2019, *St. Landry*: Sunset; Bonnie Taylor Berry (ph, p. 34).

One immature male (2020-003) on 5 January 2020, *St. John the Baptist*: Laplace, 17850 River Road; Gayle Clement (ph, p. 34).

One immature male (2020-012) on 8-February-8 March 2020, *St. Martin*: Saint Martinville, 1184 Prairie Highway; Tad Guidry (ph, p. 34).

The identification of the following records was not accepted:

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*)

One male (2016-069) on 18 December 2016, *Cameron*: near Hackberry on Hwy. 27, N29.949361°, W93.368°. Although the description was generally good, all Members had reservations about accepting because of the circumstances, which involved a quick observation from a vehicle while driving at highway speeds.

Two, male and female (2001-049) on 28 December 2001, *St. Tammany*: Big Branch NWR, non-motorized boat launch canal. This record received a split vote with just over half of Members not accepting. Most believed that, although the identification was possibly correct and the observer seemed knowledgeable of waterfowl, the overall body of evidence was inadequate to support acceptance.

American Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*)

One (2019-040) on 28 May 2019, *St. John the Baptist*: I-55 along the Maurepas Swamp WMA. All Members believed that Roseate Spoonbill was not eliminated.

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*)

One (2019-064) on 18 December 2019, *Rapides*: Cotile Lake at Cotile Lake Recreation Area Park. All Members agreed that the very brief and very distant look was not satisfactory for a positive identification as Western Grebe or *Aechmophorus* sp.

Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*)

One female (1996-021) on 26 April 1996, *Vermilion*: just W Vincent Refuge. Most Members believed that the photos submitted better supported an identification as Pectoral Sandpiper.

Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*)

One male molting to non-breeding plumage (2015-082) on 11 August 2015, *St. Landry*: crawfish pond at SW corner of Dusty and Noel roads. All Members agreed that there were insufficient details to accept the record.

Mew (Common) Gull (*Larus canus canus*)

One first year (1996-006) on 3 February 1996, *Orleans*: New Orleans, Lake Pontchartrain at Seabrook Bridge. Based on photos, all Members agreed that the bird was more likely a diminutive Ring-billed Gull.

Yellow-legged/Caspian Gull (*Larus michahellis*)

One adult (2014-132) on 7-15 April 2014, *Cameron*: about 1 mi. W Holly Beach (photos). Following careful review of photos and the specimen (LSUMZ 187467), all Members were unconvinced that the bird was a pure Yellow-legged Gull. Mantle color, eye ring color, and wing tip pattern were more suggestive of a Herring Gull X Lesser Black-backed Gull hybrid.

Western Gull (*Larus occidentalis*)

One second year immature (1989-142) on 2 August 1989, *Cameron*: Cameron, East Jetty Beach (sketch). This potential first state record began circulation almost 20 years ago but did not receive all Member votes during the first circulation and was eventually withdrawn from circulation. Additional supporting information included letters from Paul E. Lehman and Jonathan L. Dunn. Review was resumed in early 2020 and, ultimately, a majority of Members were not in favor of acceptance because there were no photographs for this potential first state record.

One adult (1996-031) on 27 April 1996, *Cameron*: Holly Beach; (photos). Although the bird superficially resembled a Western Gull, a majority of Members believed that the bird more likely represented a hybrid, possibly Herring Gull X Great Black-backed Gull.

Kelp Gull (*Larus dominicanus*)

One adult or 3rd winter (1996-047) on 12 October 1996, *Lafourche*: Fourchon Beach about 1 ½-2 mi. ENE from end of road (photos). All Members believed that a hybrid X Herring Gull was not eliminated by the description or the photograph.

One adult (1997-056) on 13 September 1997, *Plaquemines*: approx. 8 mi. N of SW Pass of Mississippi River (photos, sketch). All Members believed that a hybrid Kelp Gull X Herring Gull or some other hybrid combination was not eliminated by the description.

Roseate Tern (*Sterna dougallii*)

One adult (2001-019) on 17 June 2001, *Lafourche*: near Port Fourchon along Belle Pass, about ½ mi. from jetties. Although reported by several veteran observers, all Members were hesitant to accept this potential first state occurrence without hard evidence.

Sandwich (Cayenne) Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis eurygnathus*)

One adult (2017-091) on 11 April 2017, *Cameron*: Rutherford Beach (photos). A well-documented and intriguing report, but only one member was ultimately willing to accept as Cayenne Tern. Other Members believed that some characters were not consistent with Cayenne Tern and that an aberrant Sandwich Tern was a more likely explanation. The bird's bill was not mostly yellow and, although a percentage of Cayenne Terns are reported to have dark markings on their bill, it remains unclear whether that's a sign of intergradation. The majority of Members believed that an acceptable Cayenne should have a mostly yellow bill. One Member suggested that the coloration of the bill – with a hint of orange – was wrong for Cayenne and wrong for a Sandwich with reduced black and perhaps may suggest an Elegant X Sandwich tern hybrid.

Red-billed Tropicbird (*Phaethon aethereus*)

One adult (2019-073) on 17 August 2019, *Gulf of Mexico*: approximately 140 mi. SE Southwest Pass Mississippi River on Carnival Cruise ship *Glory* at N27.012°, W88.535°. A close decision on a potential fifth state occurrence, with the minority of Members willing to accept that the bird was definitely a tropicbird and that the supporting details could only be interpreted as supporting an identification as Red-billed. However, a majority of Members were uneasy about the brevity, distance, viewing angles, and lack of supporting photos.

Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri*)

One (2019-071) on 12 August 2019, *Gulf of Mexico*: approximately 163.7 mi. SE Southwest Pass Mississippi River on Carnival Cruise *Glory* at N26.089°, W88.272°. Most Members agreed that Audubon's was far more likely given date and location, but a majority were unwilling to accept the record based largely on probability.

Scarlet Ibis (*Eudocimus ruber*)

Two (2019-048) on 1 November 2019, *Cameron*: near entrance to headquarters portion of Lacassine NWR. All Members agreed that photos were consistent with White Ibis that appeared pinkish due to lighting effects.

Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*)

One (1975-023) on 9-16 December 1975, *St. John the Baptist*: Reserve. All Members believed that the details were not sufficient for acceptance without additional photo or audio documentation. A Screech-owl in hunting mode could look round-headed and have reddish streaks on the breast as per the description.

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*)

One immature (2001-048) on 12 December 2001, *Evangeline*: SW corner Miller's Lake, 3.4 mi. NE Vidrine. Although the descriptions were suggestive, the observers indicated some uncertainty and did not see all characters needed to clinch the identification of this potential second state occurrence.

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)

One (2001-064) on 14 December 2001, *Jefferson Davis*: near Thornwell, W. Niblett Road, about 1/5 mi. E Clyde Road. Description, and notably the reference to "massive yellow bill and straw-colored legs" better supported identification as a Bald Eagle.

One immature (2016-068) on 6 December 2016, *Jefferson Davis*: near Thornwell, just S intersection of Hwy. 14 X Hwy 99. All Members believed that the observation was so brief that observer was unable to describe or confirm a combination of diagnostic characters that would eliminate Bald Eagle.

One adult (2019-080) on 28 December 2019, *St. Landry*: Hwy. 71 near miles and 8. All Members agreed that the naked eye observation of a flyover from a vehicle was not satisfactory. Bald Eagles are far too common and Golden Eagles too rare in the state to accept most Golden records without solid documentation.

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*)

One (1984-066) on 29 December 1984, *Cameron*: Willow Island. Description was considered insufficient.

One (1987-067) on 25 December 1987, *Jefferson Davis*: 4 mi. S Elton. All Members believed the details (including no description of the tail pattern) were inadequate for confirming the identification. Ash-throated Flycatcher was removed from the Review List 7 September 1996.

Brown-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*)

One (1985-095) on 23 November 1985, *Iberia*: Spanish Lake. Description did not include information on diagnostic characters that would eliminate other *Myiarchus* flycatchers.

One (2019-059) on 23 November 2019, *St. Bernard*: Chalmette Battlefield (photos). Photos were considered to be inconclusive by some Members, and the accompanying description was superficial. The Committee anticipates that this record will be recirculated with "new" and better documentation as other reports are submitted.

Tropical/Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus/couchii*)

One (2019-025) on 27 April 2019, *Beauregard*: DeRidder, Hampton Street. All but one Member believed that the description did not sufficiently eliminate Western Kingbird.

Western Wood-Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*)

One (1987-065) on 24-25 October 1987, *Cameron*: Johnsons Bayou, Smith Island. All Members believed that the sight report documentation did not adequately confirm the identification of Western Wood-Pewee and eliminate Eastern Wood-Pewee.

One (2019-047) on 26 October 2019, *Cameron*: Johnsons Bayou, Peveto Woods Sanctuary (photos). Description and photos were considered inconclusive.

Cassin's Vireo (*Vireo cassinii*)

One (2001-042) on 14 December 2001, *Cameron*: Goose Island area on Lacassine NWR-Thornwell CBC (photos). Members were in agreement that the photos and written details did not decisively eliminate the more expected Blue-headed Vireo.

Chihuahuan Raven (*Corvus cryptoleucus*)

One (2019-036) on 21 September 2019, *Cameron*: Johnsons Bayou, Peveto Woods Sanctuary. All Members were hesitant to accept this potential third state record based on a sight record by a lone observer.

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*)

One adult male (2001-053) on 27 October 2001, *Cameron*: Oak Grove, N. edge of woods N of (former) Rutherford Motel (=Oak Grove Sanctuary). All Members agreed that the details were too superficial and that a hybrid was not satisfactorily eliminated from consideration.

Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*)

One male (2019-034) on 11 July 2019, *St. Tammany*: Big Branch NWR, Lake Road, N30.271311°, W89.961450° (ph). Most Members agreed that the photos were of insufficient resolution and that the description was relatively superficial.

Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*)

One female (2001-080) on 13 April 2001, *St. James*: Gramercy. All Members agreed that Orchard Oriole was not satisfactorily eliminated from consideration by the relatively brief description. This would have been just the sixth state occurrence and the second female for Louisiana.

Townsend's Warbler (*Setophaga townsendi*)

One female (2019-035) on 12 May 2019, *Jefferson*: Metairie. All Members believed that Black-throated Green Warbler or possibly other superficially similar warbler species were not adequately addressed and eliminated by the description.

Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*)

One adult male (2001-092) on 29 April 2001, *Vernon*: 5 mi. E Rosepine. All but one Member agreed that, considering that this species is much rarer as a spring migrant in Louisiana than as a fall migrant/wintering bird, and that the observation was only supported by a brief written description, that hard evidence would have been necessary for acceptance.

Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*)

One female-type (2001-056) on 14 December 2001, *Jefferson Davis*: Roche Road. All Members agreed that the combination of brief views and relative difficulty of identification of the species did not warrant acceptance.

Lazuli x Indigo Bunting (*Passerina amoena* X *P. cyanea*)

One adult male (2018-091) on 18 April 2018, *Cameron*: Grand Chenier (photo). This was apparently the first report of this hybrid combination for Louisiana and was primarily based on the presence of a single white wing bar. Ultimately, only two Members were convinced it represented a hybrid. Dissenting Members were concerned that only one photo was submitted (showing only one side of the bird) and that there was no description or analysis.

The origin of the following record was not accepted:

American Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*)

One adult (2019-040) on 11 October 2019, *Madison*: Eagle Lake, N32.5295°, W91.0501° (photos). There was no doubt as to the identification and, apparently, the bird was present the previous day and was reported by a photographer to the submitting observer. Although one Member speculated that perhaps it was the same bird observed in TN/MO in July 2019, or was the St. Marks NWR bird which apparently showed up shortly after Hurricane Michael, the majority of Members were not convinced that the occurrence was correlated with any tropical weather event or that those other records involved wild individuals. The lower legs were not visible so it could not be determined whether there were bands on the lower legs. Ultimately, most Members believed that the record was best left as “Origin Questionable.”

Corrigenda

Omissions:

The entry of the record below was cut off by a photo in the Annual Report 2009 (*12th Report of the LBRC*), p. 13, and should read:

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*)

One (1945-02) on 23 December 1945, *Pointe Coupee*: E. shore False River, near middle; G. H. Lowery Jr. (LSUMZ 10375).

The submitting observer(s) was accidentally omitted from the records below (*22nd Report of the LBRC*). Record entry should read:

Masked Duck (*Nomonyx dominicus*)

One adult female (2018-040) on 26 June-24 July 2018, *Caddo*: Tar Slough, 1513 Leonard Rd., N 32.368056°, W93.679444°; **Paul M. Dickson**, Jacob Kraemer (ph only, p. 24), John K. Dillon (ph), J. V. Remsen (ph), Jay V. Huner (ph), Paul E. Conover (ph), Robert C. Dobbs (ph), and Devin Bosler (ph).

Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*)

One pair nested and hatched seven chicks (2018-020), adults first detected 31 January 2018, with at least one individual still present at location at the end of 2018, *Terrebonne*: Lake Houma, Hollywood Rd., vicinity of N29.6116°, W90.7212°: Donna L. Dittmann (ph) and Steven W. Cardiff, Joan Garvey (ph), Kathy Rhodes (ph), Nancy L. Newfield, Michael J. Musumeche (ph), Jay V. Huner (ph), Janine Robin (ph), Erik I. Johnson (ph), Robert C. Dobbs (ph), James W. Beck (ph), J. V. Remsen (ph only), Diana and Hayes Bailly (ph), Jeff Trahan (ph), Charles E. Lyon (ph), Paul E. Conover (ph), H. Lawson Hite II (ph), Sandra DeHart (ph), Marlene DeHart Louviere (ph), Mark Pethke (ph), Randy Frederick (ph), Michele McLindon (ph), Thomas Trenchard (ph), John P. Sevenair (ph), John K. Dillon (ph), Casey Wright (ph), James (Jim) Holmes Jr. (ph), Jessica Schulz (ph, p. 25), Justin Bosler (ph). Michael Autin discovered the pair. Jessica Schulz first reported downy chicks on 25 March. This represents the second occurrence for Louisiana and the first breeding occurrence for the state. See also p. 7-8.

Corrections:

The LBRC number changed from LBRC 2012-158 Cinnamon Teal (accepted in *19th Report of the LBRC*) to LBRC 2012-159.

This “not accepted” entry from 21st report- number: date changed; record should read:

Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*)

One (2001-041) on 29 December 2001, *Plaquemines*: Venice. This record was published as 2002-096 based on a date of 29 December 2002 provided by the submitting observer. The correct date is 29 December 2001, which is corroborated by a 3 X 5 card by another observer present. Both dates were logged in with separate LBRC numbers; the correct date is logged into the LBRC roster as 2001-041 the record will assume that ID number.

Following the LBRC numbering change protocol (*10th Report of the LBRC*), the following record was re-numbered:

Pacific-slope Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis*)

One immature male originally numbered (96-74) becomes 1995-012 to reflect the year it was discovered: present from 29 Dec. 1995 to 4 Jan. 1996, *Lafayette*: Lafayette, Moore Park; Billy Leonard, Steve Shively, and Steven W. Cardiff (LSUMZ 162330), (FN 50(2):181; LOS 171).

Literature cited

LBRC Report pdfs referenced in the 23rd Report of the LBRC can be found here: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ecl39fhibi8t8dgc/AADldT825PIOMsFoE0R4D0yda?dl=0>

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Dittmann, D.L., and S.W. Cardiff. 2005. Origins and Identification of Kelp × Herring Gull hybrids: The Chandeleur Gull. *Birding* May/June 2005:266-276. See here: <http://www.gull-research.org/papers/04chandeleur.pdf>

Lowery, G. H., Jr. (1974) *Birds of Louisiana*. Louisiana State University Press; Revised Edition (June 1, 1974)

Remsen, J. V., S. W. Cardiff, and D. L. Dittmann. 1996. Timing of migration and status of vireos (Vireonidae) in Louisiana. *J. Field Ornithol.* 67(1):119-140. See here: <https://sora.unm.edu/sites/default/files/journals/jfo/v067n01/p0119-p0140.pdf>

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LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Munias on the move:

Our next state introduced species?

Native to SE Asia, the Scaly-breasted Munia (*Lonchura punctulata*) is a member of the waxbill family (Estrildidae). Their sharp cheeping notes are often a familiar sound in pet stores. There are eleven subspecies that exhibit two to three general plumage types (<https://www.birdfinding.info/scaly-breasted-munia/>), and two types have been photographed in Louisiana with characters of Checkered (nominate *punctulata*) and Scaled (*L. p. topela*). Although generally similar in overall appearance, adults can be identified to subspecies-type by the pattern of their underparts and head coloration. The eBird map

above shows their current feral distribution in the SE, with population centers to the east and west of Louisiana. A discussion about Houston’s munias is here: <https://houstonaudubon.org/birding/gallery/scaly-breasted-munia.html> An older report documents their occurrence in Florida (first found in 1965) and adjacent Alabama and Mississippi: <https://sora.unm.edu>. Local feral populations appear to emanate from likely source populations in urban areas and spread, as in the case where the species is now widely distributed in southern California, but populations pop up elsewhere, such as in the San Francisco Bay area in northern California: <http://www.birdseyebirding.com/2015/02/10/finding-scaly-breasted-munia/>. The species was added to the ABA list in 2013. Scaly-breasted Munia has been found at numerous scattered Louisiana sites - photographs in eBird include *Cameron*, *East Baton Rouge*, *Iberville*, *Ascension*, *St. John the Baptist*, *Orleans*, and *Caddo*. And closer to the Mississippi-Alabama-Florida clusters, photos include those above from left to right from *St. Tammany* (Willie Matthews and Tom Trenchard), and *Tangipahoa* (Jane Patterson; also photo at right). Munias frequent grassy and agricultural areas but are happy to visit your feeder as well, sometimes even in small flocks. The LBRC is especially interested in breeding records to support an introduced status.



LBRC Review List

August: 153 Species

KEY:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Bold | Species known to hybridize with other species. |
| <i>Italicized Bold</i> | <i>Hybrid(s) involving this parental species are documented for Louisiana.</i> |
| E? | Species is probably extinct. |
| Q | Status on State List is in question and needs resolution. |
| e/R | Species is extirpated in Louisiana (Whooping Crane re-introduction program in progress.) |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Brant | California Gull | Black-capped Vireo |
| Canada Goose (wild only) | Iceland Gull | Cassin's Vireo |
| Trumpeter Swan (Q) | Glaucous Gull | Plumbeous Vireo |
| Tundra Swan | Great Black-backed Gull | Yellow-green Vireo |
| Baikal Teal | Kelp Gull | Black-whiskered Vireo |
| Eurasian Wigeon | Brown Noddy | Clark's Nutcracker |
| American Black Duck | Arctic Tern | Chihuahuan Raven |
| King Eider | Red-billed Tropicbird | Brown-chested Martin |
| White-winged Scoter | Red-throated Loon | Rock Wren |
| Long-tailed Duck | Pacific Loon | Northern Wheatear |
| Common Merganser | Yellow-nosed Albatross | Mountain Bluebird |
| Masked Duck | Leach's Storm-Petrel | Townsend's Solitaire |
| Greater Prairie-Chicken (e) | Cory's Shearwater | Varied Thrush |
| American Flamingo | Sooty Shearwater | Curve-billed Thrasher |
| Least Grebe | Great Shearwater | Sage Thrasher |
| Red-necked Grebe | Manx Shearwater | White Wagtail |
| Western Grebe | Audubon's Shearwater | Evening Grosbeak |
| Band-tailed Pigeon | Jabiru | Red Crossbill |
| Smooth-billed Ani | Red-footed Booby | Lesser Goldfinch |
| Mangrove Cuckoo | Golden Eagle | Chestnut-collared Longspur |
| Lesser Nighthawk | Northern Goshawk | Smith's Longspur |
| Antillean Nighthawk | Harris's Hawk | Thick-billed Longspur |
| Vaux's Swift | White-tailed Hawk | Cassin's Sparrow |
| Mexican Violetear | Zone-tailed Hawk | Lark Bunting |
| Green-breasted Mango | Rough-legged Hawk | Brewer's Sparrow |
| Rivoli's Hummingbird | Ferruginous Hawk | American Tree Sparrow |
| Blue-throated Mountain-gem | Flammulated Owl | Golden-crowned Sparrow |
| Lucifer Hummingbird | Snowy Owl | Baird's Sparrow |
| Anna's Hummingbird | Burrowing Owl | Green-tailed Towhee |
| Broad-billed Hummingbird | Long-eared Owl | Spotted Towhee |
| Black Rail | Northern Saw-whet Owl | Hooded Oriole |
| Limpkin | Ringed Kingfisher | Bullock's Oriole |
| Whooping Crane (e/R) | Williamson's Sapsucker | Scott's Oriole |
| Lesser Sand-Plover | Red-naped Sapsucker | Shiny Cowbird |
| Mountain Plover | Ladder-backed Woodpecker | Bachman's Warbler (E?) |
| Eskimo Curlew (E?) | Ivory-billed Woodpecker (E?) | Lucy's Warbler |
| Black-tailed Godwit | Prairie Falcon | Virginia's Warbler |
| Ruff | Dusky-capped Flycatcher | Connecticut Warbler |
| Curlew Sandpiper | Brown-crested Flycatcher | MacGillivray's Warbler |
| Purple Sandpiper | Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher | Tropical Parula |
| Red-necked Phalarope | Crowned Slaty Flycatcher | Black-throated Gray Warbler |
| Red Phalarope | Tropical Kingbird | Townsend's Warbler |
| Long-tailed Jaeger | Couch's Kingbird | Hermit Warbler |
| Razorbill | Cassin's Kingbird | Red-faced Warbler |
| Ancient Murrelet | Gray Kingbird | Painted Redstart |
| Black-legged Kittiwake | Fork-tailed Flycatcher | Hepatic Tanager |
| Sabine's Gull | Western Wood-Pewee | Pyrrhuloxia |
| Black-headed Gull | Hammond's Flycatcher | Black-headed Grosbeak |
| Little Gull | Gray Flycatcher | Blue Bunting |
| Mew Gull | Pacific-slope Flycatcher | Lazuli Bunting |
| Western Gull | Cordilleran Flycatcher | Varied Bunting |

LBRC Review List - cont.

Hybrids. Observers should be aware that several species on the Review List are documented to hybridize with other species (**boldfaced** previous page). If a species is *italicized*, then a hybrid has been documented in Louisiana. For these designated species, it is important to consider and eliminate a possible hybrid.

Subspecies. The following recognizable subspecies or forms meet Review List criteria:

- Great Blue "Great White" Heron (*Ardea herodias occidentalis*)
- Dark-eyed "Oregon" Junco (*Junco hyemalis montanus*/Oregon-group)
- Dark-eyed "Pink-sided" Junco (*Junco hyemalis mearnsi*)
- Dark-eyed "Gray-headed" Junco (*Junco hyemalis caniceps*)
- Yellow "Mangrove" Warbler (*Setophaga petechia erithachorides*/Mangrove -group)
- Yellow-rumped "Audubon's" Warbler (*Setophaga coronata auduboni*)

The above subspecies have been documented to occur in Louisiana and, if elevated to species status at some future date, the species would be added to the State and Review lists. There are no accepted records of "Red-shafted" Flicker (*Colaptes auratus cafer*) or other non-Slate-colored forms of Dark-eyed Junco. Documentation is also requested for these subspecies, which have been reported (or submitted) but not accepted in the past. See also: <http://www.losbird.org/lbrc/LBRCNL2017.pdf>.

Species complexes and hybrids: Records can be accepted to 'complex' when not diagnosable to species, e.g., Tropical Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus couchii*) and 'Western' (Pacific-slope/Cordilleran) Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis occidentalis*). Records can be accepted as hybrid (rather than rejected as 'species' where there is phenotypic suggestion/ genetic confirmation of hybridization, e.g., Chantrelure Gull/Kelp X Herring Gull (*Larus dominicanus X argentatus*) and Tropical X Northern Parula (*Setophaga pitiayuma X americana*). Additional hybrid combinations may be added in the future.

Introduced Species. The LBRC requests documentation for records of any species not currently accepted on the State List. This includes species of captive/introduced origin not currently on the State List or Review List (e.g., Black Francolin and Ring-necked Pheasant). There is a different policy for two species with known feral populations. For Monk Parakeet, the LBRC requests breeding records and especially those outside the Greater New Orleans area, data from censuses, or other information to track potential expansion: see also <http://www.losbird.org/lbrc/LBRCNL2017.pdf>. For Canada Goose: *Canada Goose is added to the Review List based on records of wild, non-feral individuals*. Feral populations of Canada Goose occur widely or are continually introduced locally in urban or suburban areas (e.g., golf courses, parks), as well as potentially still emanating from the introduced Rockefeller Refuge population in coastal Cameron Parish. The LBRC does not solicit reports of feral individuals at this time.

Dates of past removals / additions. To improve the State's historical record of Review List Species status, the Committee welcomes documentation of occurrences of species from periods when the species was on, or prior to its removal, from the Review List: Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (removed 31 Mar 1990), Ross's Goose (removed 31 Mar 1990), Cinnamon Teal (added 7 Sep 1996; removed 14 Mar 2015), American Black Duck (added 17 Apr 2010), White-winged Scoter (added 11 Mar 1989), Long-tailed Duck (added 17 Apr 2010), Common Merganser (added 11 Mar 1989), Eurasian Collared-Dove (Introduced Species, removed 7 Sep 1996), Inca Dove (removed 25 Apr 1986), Lesser Nighthawk (added 11 Mar 1989), Calliope Hummingbird (removed 7 Sep 2002), Allen's Hummingbird (removed 16 Mar 2013), Broad-tailed Hummingbird (removed 7 Sep 2002), Buff-bellied Hummingbird (removed 29 Apr 1988), Yellow Rail (removed 23 Apr 1994), Pomarine Jaeger (removed 7 Sep 1996), Parasitic Jaeger (removed 16 Mar 2013), Lesser Black-backed Gull (removed 7 Sep 1996), Bridled Tern (removed 7 Sep 1996), Wilson's Storm-Petrel (removed 25 Apr 1986, reinstated 23 Apr 1994, removed again 25 Sep 1999), Band-rumped Storm-Petrel (removed 7 Sep 2002), Masked Booby (removed 25 Sep 1999), Northern Gannet (removed 25 Apr 1986), White-tailed Kite (removed 11 Mar 1989), Golden Eagle (added 25 Apr 1986), Swainson's Hawk (removed 29 Apr 1988), Burrowing Owl (added 7 Sep 2002), Crested Caracara (added 18 May 1991; removed 8 Sep 2007), Ash-throated Flycatcher (removed 7 Sep 1996), Great Kiskadee (removed 10 Mar 2018), Alder Flycatcher (removed 23 Apr 1994), Willow Flycatcher (removed 14 Mar 2015), Say's Phoebe (removed 14 Mar 2015), Bell's Vireo (added 18 May 1991; removed 15 Mar 2015), Cave Swallow (removed 12 Mar 2011), Evening Grosbeak (added 7 Sep 1996), House Finch (Introduced Species, removed 18 May 1991), Spotted Towhee (added 7 Sep 1996), Bullock's Oriole (added 7 Sep 1996), Western Tanager (added 11 Mar 1989; removed 16 Mar 2013), and Black-headed Grosbeak (added 11 Mar 1989).

The LBRC regrets that only a small percentage of submitted photographs can be showcased in the Annual Newsletter and LBRC Report. Due to space limitations, photographs appearing in the LBRC Showcase pages are chosen by the Newsletter Editor for a variety of reasons including (and these are well-represented herein): 1) to provide an image of the individual bird(s) accepted (whether by the person who found the bird, a photo taken within the record's date range of occurrence, or from the last day the bird was observed); 2) illustrate the importance of photographic documentation; 3) show the range of photographic images submitted to the LBRC for documentation (this page for example); 4) stress the importance of *all photographs* to the documentation process - whether or not they are blurry (but species still recognizable) or tack sharp. A grainy or poorly exposed photo can often be as useful as one that is beautifully composed and professional-appearing; and finally, 5) as a means to encourage observers to carry a camera because, with practice, most observers can produce fine images of birds. And remember, even if others are photographing the same bird, their photos may not come out, be lost, or you can capture some aspect of the bird not captured by others - always have your camera handy or you might miss that "record" shot. The LBRC is very appreciative of the time and effort observers have expended to submit photo and written documentation to the Committee.

Please keep up the good work!

Showcase I: Ducks through Vaux's Swift



2019-029

Two records of White-winged Scoter were accompanied by photographs: Robert C. Dobbs photographed an immature male (2019-029, above, bird on left), at Spanish Lake, *Iberia*, 11 February 2019. Jon Wise (2020-010) documented two individuals on 1 February 2020, on the south shore of Lake Pontchartrain in *Jefferson*.



2020-010



2020-005

There was only one record of Long-tailed Duck (2020-005, left), photo here by Glenn Ousset at Howze Beach, *St. Tammany* on 24 January 2020.

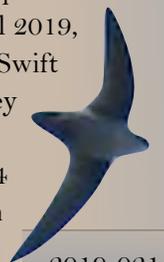


2019-022

Always fun to find in Louisiana, this Lesser Nighthawk (2019-022, above) was photographed by Paul E. Conover on 13 April 2019 at Peveto Woods Sanctuary in *Cameron*.



Photographs (left and right) by Marky Mutchler (2019-021) and voice recordings helped support the identification of a spring Vaux's Swift on 9 April 2019, at Farr Park in Baton Rouge. Most records of Vaux's Swift are from December through mid-March when Chimney Swifts are not also present. This is the latest spring record from the state; the earliest fall record is from 14 October (LSUMZ 3502, collected from a swift roost in Baton Rouge in 1939!).



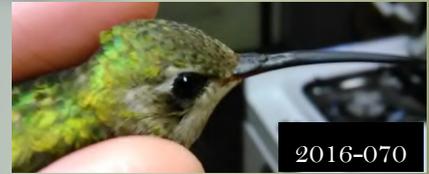
2019-021

Showcase 2: Hummingbirds through Limpkin



2008-079

Four Broad-billed Hummingbirds (all banded and supported by photographs) included: an immature male (2008-079, left) photographed by Joan Garvey on 26 January 2009 in Baton Rouge; an adult female (2016-070, right)



2016-070



2018-083

photographed by Steve Locke on 27 December 2016 in LaPlace, and an immature female (2018-083; left) photographed by J. V. Remsen prior to being banded at Gramercy on 10 January 2019. Lastly, a probable female (2019-060) was photographed by Erik I. Johnson on 27 November 2019 at a residence in Lafayette. Daniel F. Lane took this amazing shot of a daytime Black Rail (2019-024; right) along



2019-060



2019-024

Lighthouse Road, *Cameron* on 20 April 2019.

Still more Louisiana Limpkins!

Since Limpkins were first discovered in Louisiana in December 2017 (LBRC 2017-084), records have continued to accumulate. At Lake Boeuf, *Lafourche* (also the site of the state's first occurrence), Louisiana's third Limpkin was photographed by Tom Ledet on 30



2019-030

December 2018 during the Thibodaux CBC (2018-093, right). The Lake Houma pair (2019-030, above left) continued to be reported and successfully nested for the second year in a row as shown by Samuel Manning's photo of an adult and three large young on 6 June 2019. At least two birds continued to be monitored at Lake Houma into 2020 (2020-006) and Kathy Rhodes documented another successful breeding: a pair with five chicks on 15 April (below left). Breeding was also



2018-093



2020-006



Adult

confirmed in the Turtle Bayou area of *Terrebonne*, where a pair and three large juveniles were present 14-15 February 2020 (2020-002), here photographed (below center female with two large juveniles) by Donna L. Dittmann on 14 February. Finally, from a completely new area, Sean Duffy documented a Limpkin at Maurepas WMA, *St. John the Baptist* in May 2020, and then up to four were documented there into June 2020 (2020-030, below right, here photographed by Justin Lehman on 19 June).



2020-002



2020-030

Showcase 3: Jaeger through Iceland Gull

This Parasitic Jaeger (2000-045) was photographed (right and left) by Charles E. Lyon on Shreveport's Cross Lake on 13 September 2000.



2000-045

2019-053

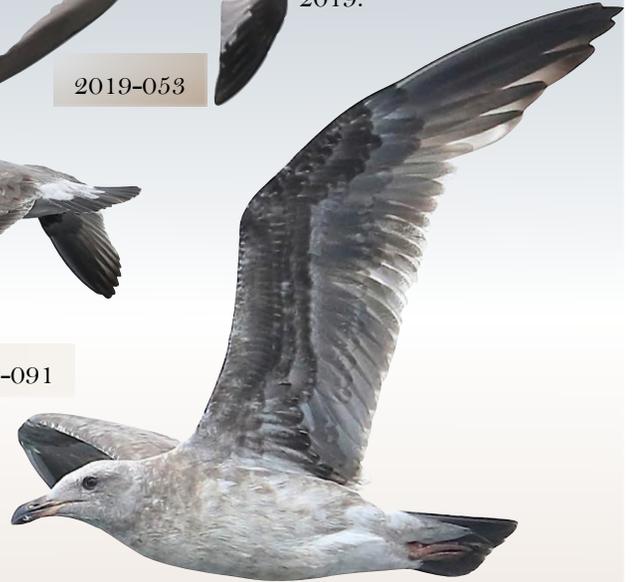
Justin Bosler was lucky to get some great shots (above and below) of a flyby juvenile Sabine's Gull (2019-053) at Rutherford Beach on 7 September 2019.



2019-053



2018-091



Louisiana's second Western Gull

This second-year immature Western Gull (2018-091, above left, above flight shots) was certainly a surprise at Shreveport's Cross Lake. A series of excellent photographs by Charles E. Lyon on 12 September 2018 documents this exceptional state and inland record.

This adult California Gull (2019-045, below left) was photographed at Rutherford Beach by Paul E. Conover on 19-October 2019. Two Iceland Gull records included one worn first-year immature (2019-077, below, gull at right and flight inset) photographed by Donna L. Dittmann at Holly Beach on 27 April 2019, and a fresh first-year immature (2020-008) on 25 January 2020, photographed by Paul E. Conover at the Egan landfill, Acadia.



2019-045



2020-008



2019-077

2019-077

Showcase 4: Glaucous and Great Black-backed gulls

2015-088



Four first-year Glaucous Gulls were accepted, all photo-documented. Perhaps most interesting was the one photographed by Charles E. Lyon at Shreveport's Cross Lake on 6 January 2015 (2015-088, left), a first for *Caddo* and one of few inland Louisiana occurrences. The other three were from more regular coastal localities: at Elmer's Island, digiscoped by Kiah Williams on 8 June 2019 (2019-070, right); at Whiskey Island, photographed by Paige Byerly on 9 May 2019 (2019-032, below right); and at Rutherford Beach, photographed on 10 April 2020 by Thomas Finnie (2020-026, below left). The last bird was judged to be the same individual photographed by Robert C. Dobbs on 20 May 2020 - six weeks later and about 8 mi. east of the original sighting (below center).



2019-070

Robert C. Dobbs on 20 May 2020 - six weeks later and about 8 mi. east of the original sighting (below center).



2019-032



2020-026



Both accepted records of Great Black-backed Gull were first-year birds documented by photographs. One was photographed by Justin Bosler at East Grand Terre Island on 15 March 2011 (2011-020, below left). The other was inland, photographed by J. V. Remsen at Zachary on 29 January 2016 (2016-006, right), and providing a first occurrence for *East Baton Rouge*.



2011-020



2016-006

Showcase 5: Kelp Gull: the end of a saga?

Records included in this Report finalized all previously submitted Kelp Gull records. There have been no reports of a pure Kelp Gull in Louisiana since summer of 2000. Most of the state's accepted Kelp Gull records are from the Chandeleur Islands, where a pair was discovered in 1989 (1989-173; *9th Report of the LBRC*) on Curlew Island in the southern portion of the island chain, and which at that time was a fairly large island about 7 miles long. The pair was reported present again the following summer, and likely the same pair remained through summer 1994 (1994-115; see below). Coincidentally, photos submitted by Charlotte Seidenberg to document the Kelp Gulls following her visit on 26 June 1994 (1994-037, below) showed that other large gulls were also present: Herring and at least one other dark-backed gull (right photo, blurry gull far right, blue arrow). The



presence of Herrings and the mystery gull, suspected to be a hybrid, prompted a visit on 23 July 1994 by Donna L. Dittmann and Steven W. Cardiff, who were hosted by Laurence O'Meallie - one of the original Kelp Gull discoverers. Four (1994-115) Kelps were present that day, two shown in photos by Steven W. Cardiff (below left) and Charles E. Lyon (center with juvenile Laughing Gull and far right), who was present with another group of birders seeking to see the Kelp Gulls. This visit initiated the Chandeleur Gull saga: <http://www.gull-research.org/papers/O4chandeleur.pdf>.



A single specimen of a fourth year male Kelp (1998-128, LSUMZ 165987) was obtained on 9 June 1998 on nearby South Gosier Island and is the first and only specimen for North America (photo right by Donna L. Dittmann). Away from the Chandeleurs, there are two coastal *Cameron* records in 1992 (1992-087 and 088; *18th Report of the LBRC*),



and one from offshore 15 mi. south of Port Fourchon on 17 April 1999. This record involved two Kelps (1999-021) and a hybrid Kelp X Herring; below photos of the Kelps taken during this *very rough* pelagic trip are by Phillip A. Wallace (left two), R. Martin Guidry (center-right), and John P. Sevenair (far right). The *Chandeleur Gull* was never added to the LBRC Review List, thus no hybrids have ever been reviewed as such.



Showcase 6: Great Shearwater through Golden Eagle

The lone record of Great Shearwater (2018-094) in this Report involved one photographed by Justin Bosler on 15 September 2018 at the Mississippi Canyon-Continental Shelf break.



2018-094

Masked and Brown boobies were previously removed from the Review List but several reports were reviewed out of courtesy to the submitting observers. A rare onshore Masked Booby was photographed by Marky Mutchler flying past Peveto



2019-058

Woods Sanctuary on 3 November 2019 (2019-058, left). Continuing a recent trend, inland Brown Boobies included this adult photographed by Mark Klym near Waggaman on 20



2020-007



2020-019

January 2020 (2020-007, near right). Perhaps even more bizarre was an immature photographed by Derek Gay on 20 March 2020 at City Park (!), New Orleans (2020-019, above far right).



Golden Eagle records with associated photos included one older and four recent records. Video frames by Malcolm Mark Swan were able to document this individual (2001-103, left) at the Upper Ouachita NWR on 9 December 2001. More recently and also at Upper Ouachita NWR, Jeff Barnhill photographed one on 24 January 2020 (2020-023, upper right). The other recent records are from *Cameron* and possibly pertain to the same individuals seen on two different days but were treated as individual records.



First, two immatures were at Willow Island, photographed by Paul E. Conover on 2 November 2019 (2019-049, below left). Then, an immature was photographed by Ned Brinkley about an hour later and 23 miles west at Peveto Woods (2019-079, below far right). The following day, 3 November 2020, a single immature was again at Willow Island and photographed by Oscar Johnson (2019-056, below middle).



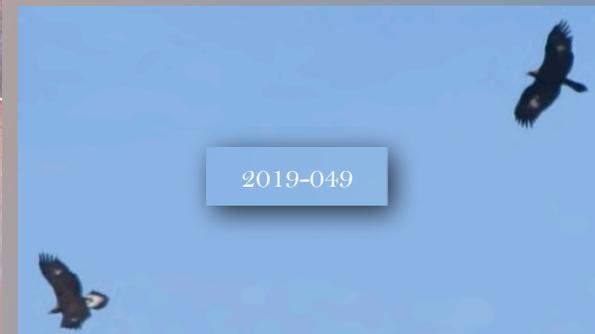
2020-023



The following day, 3 November 2020, a single immature was again at Willow Island and photographed by Oscar Johnson (2019-056, below middle).



2001-103



2019-049



2019-056



2019-079

Showcase 7: Hawks through Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher



Only one White-tailed Hawk is included in this report. Herman Callais Jr., photographed this adult (2018-088, left) at Grand Isle on 4 January 2018. This record likely pertains to the same individual present since fall 2017 and accepted previously as LBRC 2017-045 (*21st Report of the LBRC*).



Video frames (right) by Malcolm Mark Swan on 15 December 2001 documented this Say's Phoebe at 5 mi. SSW of Welsh (2001-037, right; found previous day during the Lacassine NWR-Thornwell CBC).

Three Brown-crested Flycatchers were accepted. Most interesting

were just the 6th occurrence for *Cameron*, photographed by Phillip A. Wallace on 8 December 2019 at Willow Island (2019-052, upper left), and the second occurrence of the large-billed western subspecies *magister*, photographed by Daniel F. Lane at Triumph on 2 February 2020 (2020-011, lower left). The first occurrence of *magister* is also from lower *Plaquemines*, two individuals collected together in 1994 (1994-084 and -085; *8th Report of the LBRC*).



Numerous reports from Bayou Sauvage NWR during winter 2019-2020 were confusing and appear to involve multiple individuals; the LBRC solicits additional reports to confirm this. The only one accepted here (2019-057) is from 31 December 2019 (photographed by Michael C. Mahoney, above, near right) to at least 5 January 2020 (photographed by Joan Garvey, above far right).

Louisiana's 13th Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher was photographed by Paul E. Conover on 13 October 2019 at Willow Island (2019-043, lower right).



Showcase 8: Tropical and Couch's kingbirds



2019-081

As is typical, records were accepted as species or as “complex.” Two records were accepted as Tropical Kingbird, both voice-confirmed (the gold standard for species identification): at Baton Rouge, photographed by Oscar Johnson on 30 December 2019 (2019-081, upper left); and at Manchac Swamp WMA, photographed by Jane Patterson on 15 February 2020 (2020-018, upper right). Traditionally, Members have been fairly united in requiring voice-confirmation or a specimen for ID to species.

More recently, however, as occurrences accumulate, some Members are becoming more open to accepting ID based on other characters, especially bill length, arguing that individuals with very long bills are Tropical Kingbirds and ones with very short bills are Couch's.

But, so far, records submitted as a particular species based on perceived long or short bills (but still lacking definitive vocal evidence) have all ended up being accepted only to “complex.” Long-billed (but frustratingly silent) birds reviewed as Tropical included one seen by many at Sabine NWR's Wetland Walkway and photographed by Donna L. Dittmann on 27 April 2019 (2019-054, right) and one photographed by Robert D. Purrington on 23 December 2017 at Port Fourchon (2017-097, left); neither received adequate support for acceptance beyond Tropical/Couch's. Two records submitted as Couch's included one photographed at Grand Isle State Park by Mitchell Foret on 23 May 2019 (2019-017, left), and one photographed by Andrew From along Illinois Plant Road, Jefferson Davis, on 12 October 2019 (2019-067, right). Despite that vocalizations were described for each, bill length of 2019-017 seemed too long for Couch's and, although 2019-067 was “short-billed,” some Members believed that the description of the calls was inadequate; neither record was accepted as outright Couch's. Three other photo-documented records of ‘short-billed’ but silent individuals were also accepted only to “complex:” at Theriot, photographed by Wendy Wilson Billiot on 12 January 2020 (2020-016, left); at Johnsons Bayou, photographed by Maria Bellue on 17 May 2020 (2020-029, near right), and at Sulphur, photographed by Vicki Sensat on 5 October 2019 (2019-039, far right). Four records were accepted as Couch's Kingbird based on vocal confirmation: at 3 mi. S Wright, photographed by Paul E. Conover on 26 October 2019 (2019-046, below far left); at 8 mi. W of N. terminus of Doc Road, Vermilion, photographed by Michael A. Seymour/LDWF on 17 December 2019 (2019-063, below near left); at Sulphur, photographed by Vicki Sensat on 15 December 2019 (2019-062, below near right); and at Lacassine NWR Pool Unit, photographed by Michael J. Musumeche on 8 January 2020 (2020-013, far right).



2020-018



2019-054



2017-097



2019-017



2019-067



2020-016



2020-029



2019-039



2019-046



2019-063



2019-062



2020-013

Showcase 9: Gray Kingbird through *Empidonax*



2019-026

Three Gray Kingbird records with photos were accepted, all found at Grand Isle: one photographed by Kimberley Hollier on 11 May 2019 (2019-026, left); up to three on Louisiana Avenue photographed by Michael J. Musumeche on 30 April 2020 (2020-028, right); and one at Hwy. 1 X Admiral Craik, photographed by Rosemary Seidler on 6 May (2020-032, lower right).



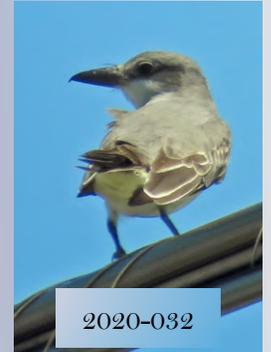
2020-028

Only one Western Wood-Pewee was accepted, a specimen of an immature male by Paul E. Conover near Cameron on 21 September 2019 (2019-037, left). Photos of the specimen by



20019-037

Donna L. Dittmann show some of the better characters to separate Western from Eastern Wood-Pewee: concolorous dark crown-nape, dark sides, all-dark lower mandible, and brownish cast to the plumage.



2020-032

An adult male Pacific-slope Flycatcher photographed by Donna L. Dittmann near St. Gabriel on 12 January 2020 (2020-004) right), was

subsequently collected to confirm species identification. The bird was giving the “male location note.” Age and sex were determined during preparation and identification was confirmed by measurements. DNA will also be analyzed in the near future along with samples from other Louisiana specimens. Another record submitted as a Pacific-slope Flycatcher was likely a female based on “female location notes.” This

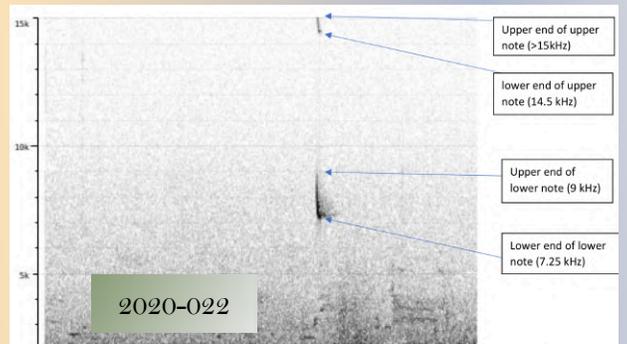


2020-004



2020-022

bird was seen and heard by many at Braithwaite and photographed by James F. (Jim) Holmes on 14 February 2020 (2020-022, left). Holmes compared his voice recording (below) to those archived on Xenocanto. Comparing frequencies of the upper and lower notes, he suggested the female position note of this individuals was more similar to Pacific-slope than to Cordilleran based on frequency. Some Members believed that more study is needed to confirm this hypothesis, and the record was ultimately accepted only as Pacific-slope/Cordilleran flycatcher.



2020-022

Showcase 10: Black-capped Vireo to Chihuahuan Raven



2020-021

This stunning male Black-capped Vireo in *St. John the Baptist* was photographed by Jane Patterson on 21 April 2020 (2020-021, left). It represents the first occurrence for Louisiana. See also p. 1.



2019-023



2019-075

There were two photo-documented Yellow-green Vireos, one at Grand Chenier, photographed during banding by Julie Shieldcastle on 13 April 2019 (2019-023, middle above), and one at Grand Isle, photographed by Joan Garvey on 26 May 2019 (2019-075, above right).

Previously unreviewed LSU-MNS specimens of Black-whiskered Vireo are included in this report (photo by Donna L. Dittmann, below); locality and date are visible on specimen labels. See p. 12 for further details. Subspecies noted below LBRC number.



2020-020



2020-027

There were two photo records of Black-whiskered Vireo. One was photographed by Kathy Rhodes at Grand Isle on 30 May 2020 (2020-031, above left). The other was photographed by Matt Conn on 26 April 2020 at a more unusual location near Lydia, *Iberia* (2020-027, above right).



1963-05

V. a. barbatus

1963-06

V. a. barbatus

1961-01

V. a. altiloquus

1966-07

V. a. barbatus

1957-01

V. a. barbatus

1964-01

V. a. barbatus

1970-01

V. a. altiloquus

Louisiana's second Chihuahuan Raven

Paul E. Conover (left four images) and Dave Patton (right two images) were in the right place at the right time when this Chihuahuan Raven flew past them on Rutherford Beach on 12 May 2019 (2019-032, below). Both were able to obtain photos to document this second accepted record for Louisiana. Right image shows long nasal bristles characteristic of ravens.



2019-032

2019-032

Showcase I I: Northern Wheatear through blackbirds



2019-050

A Northern Wheatear was present at the DeRidder Regional Airport, here photographed by Jay V. Huner on 7 November 2019 (2019-050, left). This represents only the sixth accepted Louisiana occurrence. Lisa Moreland obtained these photos of an immature male Lesser Goldfinch at her Leesville feeder on 26 March 2019



2019-055

(2019-055, right). This represents the fifth accepted state occurrence.



2019-028

The only record of Spotted Towhee was this male present at Lafayette, here photographed by Kathleen O'Shaughnessy on 10 February 2019 (2019-028, left).

Adding additional zest to the 2020 LOS Winter Meeting in Shreveport was this immature Golden-crowned Sparrow found and photographed by Bill Wood on 25 January 2020 (2020-009, right). This is only the third accepted Louisiana occurrence and the first that was "chaseable" for many state birders. Another photo taken by Michael J. Musumeche on 26 January nicely captures the golden crown (below right).



2020-009



2018-090

This adult male Bullock's Oriole (2018-090, left) was a long-staying wintering stakeout at a Lafayette yard; image is a "screen grab" from a Youtube-posted video taken by Paul E. Conover on 6 January 2019.

Two Shiny Cowbirds were accepted: a male photographed by J. V. Remsen at Venice on 18 February 2017(2017-036, below left) was one of few Louisiana winter occurrences; somewhat more expected were two males photographed at Grand Isle State Park by Mitchell Foret on 23 May 2019 (2019-018, below right).



2017-036



2019-018

Showcase 12: Warblers



A male Connecticut Warbler photographed by Robert C. Dobbs on 5 May 2019 was a surprise at Oak Grove, *Cameron* (2019-031, above) it was just the sixth state occurrence.



Three MacGillivray's Warblers included this presumed returnee adult male photographed by Joan Garvey at City Park, New

Orleans, on 1 March 2019 (2019-076, above). The other two records were reviewed separately, but one might wonder if the one in Mississippi River batture south of Baton Rouge, photographed by Oscar Johnson on 25 September 2019 (2019-038, below far left), might be the same bird discovered about 7 miles to the north in February 2020, here photographed by Oscar Johnson on 9 February 2020 (2020-001, middle left).



The only Yellow-rumped "Audubon's" Warbler in this report was one winter-plumaged individual photographed by Sandra DeHart in *Vermilion* on 13 October 2019 (2019-042, near right).



Louisiana's first Mangrove Warbler

A male "Mangrove" Yellow Warbler was discovered during the 2017 Grand Isle CBC (2017-096), and photos were eventually obtained during early 2018 (here, above left, by Joan Garvey on 28 January 2018). Presumably the same bird returned for winter 2018-2019, being first documented on 28 October 2018 (above right; part of 2017-096 combined LBRC submission). Like this individual, Mangrove (*erithachorides* subspecies group) Yellow Warbler males have an entirely chestnut head; Golden (*petechia* subspecies group) Yellow Warbler males have chestnut reduced to a cap. Golden are found throughout the Caribbean, as well as recently in FL. The Mangrove subspecies *oraria*, found from S. Tamaulipas (and recently extreme S. TX) to W. Tabasco, occurs closest to Louisiana. Both Mangrove and Golden warblers are considered resident throughout their range. Which breeding population the LA Mangrove Warbler originated from and how it arrived here is not known. Mangrove Warbler has been proposed to be elevated to species status, so with a split would add another species to the state list.



Showcase FINALE: Black-headed Grosbeak

Lowery (1974) considered Black-headed Grosbeak as “casual in winter” and at publication he accepted 66 occurrences distributed nearly statewide, spanning dates from 10 October–28 April, and with 62% occurring from December to February. *However*, only three of those records were documented by specimens (two December, one January) – the remaining were sight reports. Only four specimens were added through 1988 and it appeared to LBRC Members that the species was actually either very rare or had decreased in frequency. In addition, female and immatures presented identification challenges, and hybrids were also known. For that reason, Black-headed Grosbeak was added to the Review List in 1989. Since that time, three additional specimens have been obtained; the date range of LSU-MNS specimens is 10 October–27 March. Three specimens of possible hybrids have also been collected (late April–early May). Since its addition to the Review List, the committee has accepted 57 records of Black-headed Grosbeak, with nearly half of those from the last ten years. Although mathematically not surpassing 4 records/year averaged over a ten-year period, it is a species that teeters on the verge of removal from the Review List. Some winters produce more records, with most being detected at feeders. Accepted records still span fall through early spring with no accepted records of true spring migrants. Although more regular at feeders in winter than Rose-breasted Grosbeak, any potential Black-headed should be carefully studied. Again, remember that the species hybridize, and possible hybrids have been documented from Louisiana.



2020-065

Six accepted Black-headed Grosbeak records in the *23rd Report of the LBRC* include one “free-range” female at Diamond, photographed by Daniel F. Lane on 10 February 2019 (2019-069, upper right). The other five are all from winter 2019–2020. Female-types were photographed by Noel Venezia at Slidell on 22 December 2019 (2019-065, left), and (not associated with a feeder) by Gary Broussard at Cameron on 22 December 2019 (2019-066; below right). Immature males were photographed by Bonnie Taylor Berry at her Sunset yard on 31 December 2019 (2019-051, below right), by Gayle Clement at Laplace on 5 January 2020 (2020-003, below center), and by Tad Guidry at St. Martinville on 8 February 2020 (2020-012). Some of these birds were



2019-069

lifers for their discoverers, with identification assisted by *Merlin*, flagged by eBird as unusual, and ultimately made their way to the LBRC. Immature Black-headed Grosbeaks do pose an identification challenge and a potential hybrid (birds with intermediate characters) should always be considered and ruled-out as part of the ID process. An interesting note here: <https://fog.ccsf.edu/~jmorlan/grbkid.htm>



2019-066



2020-012



2020-003



2019-051

Secretarial Notes

Donna L. Dittmann, LBRC Secretary

eBird. - Not eBird again?! Yes - again!

When you read through the *22nd Report of the LBRC* it should be obvious that the LBRC could have used your help fleshing-out details for numerous records, particularly for long-staying rarities seen by many observers but reported by only one or a few. For example, at least nine rarities in this report were seen by multiple observers over days/weeks/months but reported to the LBRC by only one or two observers. The Northern Wheatear (p. 13) is the most dramatic example with only **one** submission! Also, the original finder is often *not acknowledged* on long forms or eBird lists submitted - so that information is lost. LBRC Members try to determine who was the finder but sometimes it is not possible. *Finders - you should submit your own report and get credit for your fabulous find!* One of the Brown-crested Flycatcher records in this report demonstrates another issue: don't assume that there is just one individual present! From examination of photos included with this record's rare bird report forms, and review of photos in other eBird lists (not submitted to the LBRC) for that "stake-out," there were multiple individuals involved (p. 10). When you are one of numerous observers to chase a stake-out, it's easy to become blasé and figure that someone else will provide documentation, an assumption which, these days, is more than likely *not be the case*. And then there's the 'Patagonia picnic-table effect' (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patagonia_picnic_table_effect) to consider: additional rarities are often found at the same location by observers chasing a stakeout. Remember that the LBRC only reviews records that are directly submitted to the Committee. Many rarities reported to the LBRC are also represented in eBird lists, and the LBRC tries to mention photo-documented "first observed" and "last observed" dates from eBird that may not have been directly reported to the LBRC. But, the LBRC does not reconstruct record histories from eBird and unreported "actual" first and last dates risk never being officially archived.

In the *2018 LBRC Newsletter*, I wrote a *Tips on reporting Review List Species*, followed by the *2019 LBRC Newsletter*, which discussed 'flagged rarities.' In that discussion, I also provided a cut-and-paste template to use to allow you to add important information to your eBird list. Remember, the "general comments" and "details" sections in eBird lists do not prompt inclusion of the "circumstances" of your observations. I encourage observers to please also add the following for Review List species entries:

Time: & Duration (of your observation, which generally is not the same as that entered for the eBird list)

Specific Locality (if more specific than your eBird location)

Viewing conditions (distance, optics, weather if relevant or not included in the eBird list)

Circumstances of the observation (yours and the bird's, including habitat and bird's behavior)

Description (plumage, size, shape, and voice, note how other species were eliminated if relevant, especially important if diagnostic photos are not obtained)

Again, I would encourage eBird users to adopt the above format for any rarity submitted in eBird, if only to have this information available to refer to later- *memories are fleeting!* If all information of your observation is contained in your eBird report then it's super easy to fill out a LBRC long form: <http://losbird.org/lbrc/submitreport.html>. You can simply put "see eBird checklist" and add the link to the checklist instead of duplicating the information on each question on the long form, which is already contained in the eBird submission. When filling out the long form, you also have the advantage to double check information requested by the LBRC. And, if not already included in your eBird submission, you can add it so all key aspects of your observation are included there. LBRC Member and LOS President John Dillon has also mentioned this topic in a recent post to Louisiana Ornithological Society's Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/620785058521565>. Also, if you reference your eBird report in your rare bird report form, then you can also allow the LBRC to include photos (copyright protected in eBird) in the LBRC photo *Galleries*.

Please help the LBRC provide the most complete account for each Review List Species. To all those who have supported the LBRC in the past...

Thank-you!

The Louisiana Bird Records Committee

LBRC Newsletter design & editor: Donna L. Dittmann



Current LBRC Members:

Officers:

Secretary
Donna L. Dittmann
donnaldittmann@gmail.com



Museum of Natural Science
119 Foster Hall,
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216
225-578-2009 (work)
225-642-5763 (home leave message)

Chair
Steven W. Cardiff
scardiff@gmail.com



Museum of Natural Science
119 Foster Hall
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216
225-578-9289 (work)
225-642-5763 (home leave message)

Voting Members:

John K. Dillon
kisforkryptonite@gmail.com
183 Dance Rd.
Athens, LA 71003
318-243-2284 (cell)



Robert C. Dobbs
rcdobbs@gmail.com
105 Beechwood Dr.
Lafayette, LA 70503
970-402-3024 (cell)



Erik I. Johnson
ejohnson@audubon.org
564 Sunset Strip
Sunset, LA 70584
225-252-8864 (cell)



Daniel F. Lane
barbetboy@yahoo.com
Museum of Natural
Science, 119 Foster Hall,
Louisiana State University,
Baton Rouge, LA
70803-3216
225-229-7368 (cell)



Larry R. Raymond
lrraymond@aol.com
6675 North Park Circle
Shreveport, LA 71107
318-929-3117



Casey E. Wright
wright.949@mac.com
137 Pete's Wharf Lane
Grand Isle, LA 70358
504-343-6225 (cell)



Voting
Member &
LBRC
website:

Paul E. Conover
zoiseaux@lusfiber.net
501 Adrienne Street
Lafayette, LA 70506
337-235-3594 (home)



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TO THE
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NEWSLETTER:

JAMES M. BISHOP,
PAUL E. CONOVER,
ROBERT C. DOBBS,
KEVIN COLLEY,
LARRY RAYMOND.

SOME MISTAKES
ALWAYS SEEM TO
DEFY DETECTION.
IF YOU SPOT ANY
ERRORS OR
OMISSIONS IN
THIS ISSUE, THEN
PLEASE SEND
CORRECTIONS TO
THE SECRETARY.

THANK YOU!

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