

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: American Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
10
3. Parish:
Terrebonne
4. Specific Locality:
East Raccoon Island (29.055147,-90.938858).
5. Date(s) when observed: August 8, 2025
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 7:20am
7. Reporting observer: James F Holmes (Jim)
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Audrey Holmes, David Holmes, Kaitlyn Holmes (fishing guide)
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):

The birds had been previously present for a prolonged period of time but I am unaware of who originally found them or when.
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): okay conditions. We were initially looking East when we first found them and lighting was bad. We then moved around to where the sun was mostly behind us providing much better lighting.
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski binoculars 10x40 (good condition)
12. Distance to bird(s): 700 feet
13. Duration of observation: 15+ minutes
14. Habitat: offshore island with rocks and sand

15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): mostly standing among a large group of Brown Pelicans, never seen in flight

16. Description (include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen; include if possible: total length/relative size compared to other familiar species, body bulk, shape, proportions, bill, eye, leg, and plumage characteristics. Stress features that separate it from similar species):

These were large pink wading birds with long pink necks and long pink legs. At times, you could just see a little black feathering in the primaries. The bill was also pink with a black tip. The bills were large with a strong downward curve to the end.

17. Voice: None

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Roseate Spoonbill. These birds were larger than Roseate Spoonbill with different size and shapes of bill.

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):
photographs attached

20. Previous experience with this species: I have seen American Flamingo on several occasions although this was my first in Louisiana.

21. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):

None

22. Identification aids used when?

None used

23. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain:

Yes

24. Date report completed:

August 20, 2025

25. May the LBRC have permission to display in whole or in part this report and accompanying photos on the LOS-LBRC website and LBRC Facebook page? Yes

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

