

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of species on the Louisiana Bird Records Committee (LBRC) Review List. The LBRC recommends the use of this form or a similar format when submitting records for review (to assure that all pertinent information is accounted for). Attach additional pages as necessary. Please print or type. Attach xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. English and Scientific names: *Audubon's Shearwater*, *Puffinus lherminieri*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One, in primary molt (outer 3 primaries old), apparently missing 1-2 secondaries on right wing (raising question whether this could be the 1236 bird, seen 45 min prior and about 3 mi away)
3. Locality: Parish: Gulf of Mexico (nearest parish = Plaquemines)
Specific Locality: 28.5281, -88.8006 (ca. 38 mi SE of Miss. River South Pass jetty)



Exact locality at the "1324" icon, in relation to other AUSH records for day

4. Date(s) when observed: *2 September 2017*

5. Time(s) of day when observed: 1322 CDT
6. Reporting observer and address: Robert C. Dobbs, Lafayette, LA
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Paul Conover, John Dillon, Danny Dobbs, Marty Guidry, Erik Johnson, Hal Mitchell, David Muth, Larry Raymond, Van Remsen (these are simply the people I recall nearby), et al.
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): None
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Bright, sunny, clear sky.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski 8x30 binos (good condition), Nikon AF-S 300 mm 1:4 D camera lens (good condition)
11. Distance to bird(s): the bird allowed close approach, probably in the 50-80 range, based on photos
12. Duration of observation: ca. 2 min, based on photo timestamps
13. Habitat: sargassum line, blue water
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): I first photographed this bird on the water, as it allowed relatively close approach; it then flushed, landed, and allowed another approach (and more photos) before flushing again and flying away
15. Description (include only what was actually seen, *not what "should" have been seen*; include if possible: total length/relative size compared to other familiar species, body bulk, shape, proportions, bill, eye, leg, and plumage characteristics. Stress features that separate it from similar species): Small shearwater with medium length, slender, grayish bill, contrasting blackish above and white below--except for blackish undertail coverts. Upperparts uniformly sooty grayish-black crown, nape, back, and upper tail. Upper wing also uniformly dark, but variable due to wear, ranging from sooty-blackish fresh inner 4-5 primaries to old/worn sooty-brownish secondaries and secondary coverts (with paler and more grayish areas), and outer primaries. Auriculars mostly white; white spot above eye.
16. Voice: Not vocal

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Manx Shearwater eliminated by dark undertail coverts, mostly white auriculars, white spot over eye.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? Attached?): Photos by Robert C. Dobbs, attached

19. Previous experience with this species: Very limited -- I had only seen one AUSH prior to this trip, and I've never seen Manx.

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

a. at time of observation: None

b. after observation: Petrels, Albatrosses & Storm-Petrels of North America (Howell 2012)

21. This description is written from: X notes made during the observation (notes attached?); notes made after the observation (date:); memory; X photos taken during observation

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

23. Date: 16 Sep 2017 Time: 1350 CDT

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

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



Timestamp 1322



Timestamp 1322



Timestamp 1324



Timestamp 1324



Timestamp 1324



Timestamp 1324



Timestamp 1324