

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 or files as necessary. Please print or type for hard copy. For electronic copy, be sure to save this file to your computer before entering text. Attach field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed (if hard copy), mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216, or e-mail electronic copy as an attachment to Paul Edward Conover at <zoiseaux@lusfiber.net> .

1. English and Scientific names: Audubon's Shearwater; *Puffinus lherminieri*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
At least four seen and studied by me on pelagic trip organized by Dr. J.V. Remsen and David Muth out of Venice.
3. Parish: N/A
Specific Locality: blue water of Gulf out of Venice – see ebird lists for exact locality
4. Date(s) when observed: 2 September 2017
5. Time(s) of day when observed: Mid-morning to early afternoon
6. Reporting observer and address: Larry R. Raymond, 6675 North Park Circle,
Shreveport, LA 71107
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): 19 birder participants, including Dr. J.V. Remsen, Dr. Eric Johnson, David Muth, Paul Conover, Robert Dobbs, Nancy Newfield, John Dillon, Hal Mitchell, John Sevanair and others. All participants saw bird.
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): All participants identified bird. Photos provided by myself, Hal Mitchell, Robert Dobbs, J.V. Remsen, Paul Conover, and possibly others.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): sunny day, good light, clear visibility

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10 x 40 Zeiss binoculars; Nikon camera with 18-300 mm lens
11. Distance to bird(s): birds observed on water and flying within 50 to 100 ft of boat
12. Duration of observation: multiple observations for several minutes at a time
13. Habitat: deep blue waters of Gulf near *Sargassum* line
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): birds feeding and resting on water and observed flying near boat over water surface
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, *or for species that are known to hybridize frequently, stress features that help eliminate possible hybrids*): Smallish gull-like seabird. Overall dark above with white under wings, dark undertail coverts, and white spot in front of eye.
16. Voice:
17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Size and black bill rules out Cory's Shearwater; size and lack of dark underwing pattern rules out Great Shearwater; and, dark undertail coverts and white spot in front of eye rules out Manx Shearwater.
18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): See ebird checklists: <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S38984265>
<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S38984348>
<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S38986948>
19. Previous experience with this species: None
20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):
 - a. at time of observation: Identified by other birders with experience at time of observation.

- b. after observation: Peterson Guide, Sibley Guide; photographs taken at time of observation

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

23. Date: 8 September 2017

Time: 2030 hrs

24. 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
If yes, may we include your name with the report? Yes