

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: **Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)**
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
. **one adult**
3. Parish: **Cameron**
Specific Locality: **Rutherford Beach (DLD did not record exact location in notes- “ mi. W old mouth Mermentau River (“WOMMR”) probably planning to add that later and never did.**
4. Date(s) when observed: **1 May 1992**
.
5. Time(s) of day when observed: **3:25 PM (seen as flying past car along the shoreline to the E)**
.
6. Reporting observer and address: **Donna L. Dittmann & Steven W. Cardiff**
.
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):
DLD indicates that there were other observers “et al.” – but does not list names on notes.
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s):
.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):
reported “ in good light”
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
both DLD & SWC had Leica 10 X 42s in good condition
11. Distance to bird(s):
DLD did not record distance but we were probably on the upper beach and it was flying along the shoreline – so probably not that distant.
12. Duration of observation: **about 1 minute to when it disappeared from sight.**

13. Habitat: **Gulf beach**

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): **flying east, unmistakable buoyant flight characteristic of this species; observers know BLKI flight gizz to distinguish from other gulls/terns = wings are not dipped as deep, a flatter or shallower wingbeat.**

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*): **adult in alternate plumage, reported as relatively fresh plumage from what we could see as it flew by, with no gaps in the remiges or rectrices suggesting molt in progress, head, underparts, and tail unmarked white; mantle medium gray, much lighter than nearby Laughing Gulls about the color of a California Gull or slightly lighter; upperwing gray (same as mantle with white trailing edge; limited clean cut black tips on primaries. separated from gray by a light pale area (see illustration on notes); all white underwings except for black primary tips. Bill "yellow" but color must be inferred, not indicated on notes other than to say bill was not well seen and may have had some retained dark (on yellow bill).**

16. Voice: **not heard.**

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): **None really.**

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): **NO**

19. Previous experience with this species: **Lots, including IDing a very distant bird in flight (by flight pattern) on an inland lake in southern California (later confirmed by photos).**

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

a. at time of observation: **none.**

b. after observation: **none.**

21. This description is written from:

X	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	YES
	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

memory
study of images

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: YES – can't believe that we never submitted it!

23. Date: 24 June 2015

Time: 3:35 PM

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 _____

Donna L. Dittmann / 24 June 2015

Black-legged Kittiwake

1 May 92

325

mi W O M M R

DLD & S W C it. al.

spotted adjacent to ear, just off beach
over water & watched fly along shore ~~to~~ E
out of sight.

from views in good light but closest distance \approx
adult alternate in relatively fresh plumage.
no gaps in wing / tail -
head underparts, tail unmarked white, mantle
medium gray (cf. Cabushade or slightly lighter) primary
tips black separated from grey wing by
light area. Bill color not well seen, may have
retained some dark? -

much
lighter
than
ABUs.

Unmistakable booby flight characteristic of
underwing all white ex black
- limited cleanest black
primary tips

the species,
primary tips

watched for \approx 1 min
as disappeared from
sight



- white trailing edge

1992-91