

# LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

## REPORT FORM

1. **English and Scientific names:** Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*)
2. **Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):**  
1
3. **Locality: Parish:** Plaquemines  
**Specific Locality:** 55-65 mi S Southwest Pass
4. **Date(s) when observed:** July 4, 2015
5. **Time(s) of day when observed:** 1100 h
6. **Reporting observer and address:** David P. Muth, 2765 Orchid St., New Orleans, LA 70119.
7. **Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):** Cathy DiSalvo, Joan Garvey, Charlie Lyon, Willie Matthews, Van Remsen, Jean & Jeff Trahan.
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):** sunny good light
10. **Optical equipment (type, power, condition):** Eagle Optics Platinum 10x42, Canon Powershot SX50 HS
11. **Distance to bird(s):** 10-50 yards.
12. **Duration of observation:** 10 m?
13. **Habitat:** <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S24175477> – “By boat (Strikezone) from previous transect endpoint to 28.206455, -89.318026. Locality mapped to midpoint of the transect. Seas calming, 1-3 ft. waves; water temp 85.3. Water depth at beginning ca. 2700 ft and at end, ca. 3600 ft.” Ebird entered by Van Remsen.



**14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):** In flight or briefly on water. Bird circled boat several times examined but did not come to chum as I recall.

**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):**

Typically shaped Sulid, brown, nearly uni-colored, but some contrast of breast with belly—in other words, showing a hint of the adult pattern. Base of underwing pale. Bill dark, bluish gray.

**16. Voice:** quiet

**17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):** Immature with adult shadow patterns are not matched by any other sulid in Gulf. Juvenile Red-footed

also brownish overall, apparently shows more contrast between upperparts and underparts, and an indistinct breast band, all dark underwing.

**18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):** yes



**19. Previous experience with this species:** A few in Louisiana (but 15 together two days before), and a few in Caribbean and Pacific off Central America.

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

**a. at time of observation:**

**b. from memory** yes; **studying photos** yes

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

**23. Date:** March 12, 2016

**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