

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): 6 at 12:10 CDT. Details of sex, age, and plumage of each individual not determinable, but at least 1 bird was a full adult and at least 1 was a subadult.
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: Jefferson Parish
Specific Locality: Mile marker 8.4 Lake Pontchartrain Causeway; Coordinates: [30.148592, -90.130548]
4. Date(s) when observed: 08/01/2015
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 12:10 CDT.
6. Reporting observer and address: Nancy L Newfield
Casa Colibrí
3016 45th Street
Metairie, LA 70001
504-338-3882
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Steve Locke actually saw them first, but he might not submit a report.
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): Full daylight at noontime. There was no shade and sun was almost directly overhead.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): No optical equipment used.
11. Distance to bird(s): about 60 feet.
12. Duration of observation: about 30 seconds.
13. Habitat: Over open calm water of large, shallow lake.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Flying northward close to the northbound span. We were travelling southward at about 55 miles per hour.
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):

We noted that the long, pointed wings, the relatively large size, long, pointed bills, and the overall dark brown coloration of the upperparts separated them from other species usually seen over

Lake Pontchartrain. One individual was clean white below. Another was brownish. They flew with strong, athletic strokes. Although all six were together, they did not have coordinated flight as one might see from a flock of ducks or geese but rather like frat boys walking home from an evening of partying.

16. Voice: Not heard.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): The dark brown heads and upperparts eliminated all other Sulids,

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): None.

19. Previous experience with this species: Have observed numerous individuals twice from Little Tobago Island (10/24/1994, 06/19/1997) [Trinidad and Tobago], several times on the Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, including Marenco (03/11/1993), July 2003 and 2005, and in the Mississippi River 8 miles downriver from Venice, Louisiana (08/31/2013). Further, I have seen several at a couple of times since my first observation on 03/28/2015 while crossing the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway.

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

None.

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation:

21. This description is written from: _____ notes made during the observation (_____ notes attached?) x notes made after the observation (date: 15:00 on 08/01/2015); memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter:

Nancy L Newfield Date: 08/01/2015. Time: 20:00 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.