

# 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](mailto:zoiseaux@lusfiber.net)> .

1. English and Scientific names: Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
3 birds: 2 adult (near adult) and 1 subadult
3. Parish: St. Tammany  
Specific Locality: Causeway bridge. Crossover No. 2 - 30.258x-90.112 (about MM 16) where the birds have been seen for a prolonged period
4. Date(s) when observed: May 16, 2016
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 10:26am
6. Reporting observer and address: Jim Holmes, 4109 U Street, Sacramento, CA 95817
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): None
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): These are stakeouts and have been present for a while (over a year).
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Overcast
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski 10x40 binoculars (good condition)
11. Distance to bird(s): as close as 60 feet
12. Duration of observation: 6 minutes (while stopped at the crossover)

13. Habitat: Lake Pontchartrain

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):

Birds were flying at and below the level of the bridge. Never seen to actively dive but appeared to be looking for food as they were slowly going back and forth (parallel to the bridge)

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*):

An obvious sulid with long narrow wings, long tail and long pointed, conical bill. Bill dull yellow in color. Head, neck, back upper chest, upperside of wings and tail all dark brown. Lower chest and belly white (with occasional brownish feathers in the 2 near adult birds). Underwing coverts white. Sharp demarcation between brown upper chest and white lower chest and belly. The subadult bird was similar plumaged but light brownish where the adult was white. Feet yellow (but this is only appreciated from the photo).

16. Voice: none

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

Dark brown head and sharp demarcation between brown chest and white lower chest rules out all other species of boobies.

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

Photos are in my eBird list: <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S29709163>

One photo of the (nearly) adult bird is clearly a Brown Booby. The other photo is of the 3 birds together with the superdome in the background (although only one of the birds is identifiable as a Brown Booby from this photo).

19. Previous experience with this species: I have seen this species on numerous occasions. Most recently, I saw the species on three different dates in April 2016 on St. Helena Island, Ascension Island and Santiago Island (Cape Verde) with a maximum of 175 at Boatswain Island at Ascension Island.

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:

<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: May 16, 2016

Time: 8:18pm (Pacific)

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 \_\_\_\_\_