

# LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

## REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: Burrowing Owl, *Athene cunicularia*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
1
3. Parish: Lafourche  
Specific Locality: Fourchon Beach, east of Bay Champagne
4. Date(s) when observed: 12/17/14, 12/18/14
5. Time(s) of day when observed: ~1100 on 12/17, ~1000 on 12/18
6. Reporting observer and address: Dan O'Malley, Baton Rouge
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): 12/17 Erik Johnson; 12/18 Delaina Leblanc, Melvin Weber
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): Erik Johnson initially found and identified the bird
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): mostly overhead sun on open beach
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Eagle Optics Ranger 8x42, good
11. Distance to bird(s): <3 meters away at closest, >100 meters at furthest
12. Duration of observation: ~10 minutes for each encounter
13. Habitat: Open beach, dunes on Gulf shoreline
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Flushed several times from artificial and natural debris present on the beach to other places of cover, or at times to exposed perches (ie highest part of beach ridge, top of log on beach)
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):*

Long legged, medium sized owl with yellow irides. Underparts whitish with thick brown barring. Upperparts brown with small whitish spots.

16. Voice: Silent.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Relative length of legs eliminates all other owls known to occur in North America.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photos by O'Malley, Johnson, and Leblanc.

19. Previous experience with this species: Saw bird wintering at Hackberry Ridge twice in 2013. Seen on several occasions in South Florida.

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

a. at time of observation: None

b. after observation: Sibley

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 type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

23. Date: 1/8/15

Time: 1911

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\_\_\_\_\_





