

# 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: Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
1 adult bird, referring to Sibley's plumage resembles Western rather than Florida variety.
3. Parish: Lafourche (I believe)

Specific Locality: My husband spotted the owl on the left side of hwy 1 as we traveled from Grand Isle to New Orleans. I tried to locate exact spot when I reported to ebird but this was difficult. I know that there were 3 large, metal utility poles and the owl was perched on the base of one. My last photo of the bird was taken at 7:48 am and we arrived at the Lockport Elevated Boardwalk around 9:00 am if that is helpful. (My husband believes it was just shortly after we got onto hwy 1 from the bridge.)

4. Date(s) when observed:  
4/25/18
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 7:45-7:48 am

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| Reporting observer: Maureen Ellis |
| City: Milan                       |
| State: TN                         |

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):

Robert Ellis

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 morning, well lit

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):

Nikon D7100 with 400mm lens

11. Distance to bird(s):

approximately 50 feet

12. Duration of observation:

5 minutes

13. Habitat:

perched on base of utility pole, open field behind it.

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

the owl was resting. It looked around and did not seem disturbed by us at all. It did finally notice us but did not seem disturbed. Did not seem agitated-no bobbing action as mentioned in Sibley's. No vocals.

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*):

(See attached photos)

16. Voice:

none

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

Burrowing Owl is quite distinctive with it's small size and long legs.

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

Photos were taken by myself (Maureen) and I will be happy to send all.

19. Previous experience with this species:

None, as a matter of fact we did not realize until later that it was a rare bird for Louisiana since we are Tennessee birders.

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

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation:

Immediately after driving from the site I referred to both my Sibley's and Nat. Geo field guides

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 type="checkbox"/>            | memory                             |                     |                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | study of images                    |                     |                          |

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

Yes

23. Date: 4/25/18

Time 7:45 am

24. May the LBRC have permission to display in whole or in part this report and accompanying photos on the LOS-LBRC website and LBRC Facebook page?

Yes

If yes, may we include your name with the report? Yes















