

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

1. **English and Scientific names:** California Gull (*Larus californicus*)
2. **Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):**
1 second cycle
3. **Locality: Parish:** Cameron
Specific Locality: Rutherford Beach, About one half mile west of cattle guard.
4. **Date(s) when observed:** 25 April 2015
5. **Time(s) of day when observed:** 11:00-11:20 am
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):** Phillip Wallace, Dan Purrington
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):** decent
10. **Optical equipment (type, power, condition):** Eagle Optics Platinum 10x42, Pentax 60x zoom. Canon Powershot SX50 HS
11. **Distance to bird(s):** 30-100 yards.
12. **Duration of observation:** 15 m
13. **Habitat:** gulf beach
14. **Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):**
loafing with mixed gull and tern flock.
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):

Second year. Small HERG size, but fairly robust (*albertaensis?*). Distinctive long lanky, long primary extension, long thin bicolored bill, dipped in ink. Gray green legs with fleshy tones and pinkish webbing. Mantle darker gray than HERG in same field of view. White rump, black tail. Nape heavily streaked.

<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S23048997>

16. Voice: not heard

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): From second winter HERG by mantle color, leg color, body and bill shape, tail and wing pattern (small inner primary panel).

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







19. Previous experience with this species: several Louisiana, many out west.

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

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation: Ebird list; **studying photos** yes

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

23. Date: March 8, 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