## 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>.

- 1. English and Scientific names: California Gull (*Larus californicus*)
- 2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): One 1<sup>st</sup> cycle bird unknown sex.
- 3. Parish: East Baton Rouge

Specific Locality: West Irene Impoundments

- 4. Date(s) when observed: 7, 15, 28 Dec 2020
- 5. Time(s) of day when observed: generally between about 9am-noon
- 6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Dan Lane
City: Baton Rouge
State: LA

- 7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Matt Brady, Robb Brumfield, Gary Byerly, Oscar Johnson, Nick Mason, Van Remsen, Cameron Rutt, David Vander Pluym
- 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): Good light (see photos).
- 10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss 10x40 bins and Swarovski 20-60 zoom scope
- 11. Distance to bird(s): 30-300 m
- 12. Duration of observation: between 10 min-1 hr on any given day. Continuing bird first

## reported on 1 December.

- 13. Habitat: shallow pond with red mud beach in impoundment.
- 14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Generally loafing with other gulls, but flew on several occasions, including to nearby landfill to feed.
- 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*): Continuing bird first reported on 1 Dec. Medium-sized gull. Mostly muddy mottled brown, dark band on greater coverts, pale rump with dark tail. Pink bill with "black ink-dipped" tip. See photos.
- 16. Voice: None heard.
- 17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Too brown for Ring-bill, too small for Herring. Undertail coverts mottled, eliminating Black-tailed.
- 18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, some below. Also see: <a href="https://ebird.org/checklist/S77209689">https://ebird.org/checklist/S77209689</a>, <a href="https://ebird.org/checklist/S77529326">https://ebird.org/checklist/S78183388</a>
- 19. Previous experience with this species: Extensive in West, also a few previous Louisiana records.
- 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.	Are notes attached?	
		notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
2	X	memory		

x study of images

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

Time: 3:30pm

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\_\_\_\_\_

23. Date: 31 Dec 2020





