

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: Glaucous Gull, *Larus hyperboreus*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1, first winter
3. Parish: Acadia
Specific Locality: Egan
4. Date(s) when observed: 16 Jan 2021
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 10:36 a.m.

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Paul E. Conover
City: Lafayette
State: LA

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): none
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): none
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):
Morning sun, not overly bright
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss 10s, Nikon d3300 with 200 mm lens,
Nikon Fieldscope as bird was drifting away
11. Distance to bird(s): within 100 yard at minimum
12. Duration of observation: probably 2-3 minutes
13. Habitat: Landfill
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): I spotted the bird

as it jumped out of a thick knot of gulls and started circling the dump site. The bird began to rise up, and after tussling in mid-air with other gulls briefly, drifted off to the west and out of sight.

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*):

A large, whitish heavy-bodied gull with dark-tipped pink bill, pink legs, dark eye.

Bird overall whitish, very pale. Wings whitish, flight feathers appeared very white, underwing linings on close exam show very pale mocha markings, with that pale brown extending as marbling across the axillars and belly of bird. Very faint broad barring on undertail. Faint non-contrasting pale mocha markings on face, perhaps concentrated on auriculars. Tail whitish or pale gray.

Bill large, broad, largely straight-sided but slightly bulbous at level of gonys; bill pink with distinct dark tip. Legs pink, brighter than bill. Eye dark.

16. Voice:

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Aberrantly pale individual of other species ruled out by typical Glaucous Gull soft part colors and pale brown markings; hybrids ruled out by solidly white wingtips and tail. Iceland Gull ruled out by soft part colors, difference in size and morphology.

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

19. Previous experience with this species: Only in Louisiana, but fairly extensive, usually with this age class.

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

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation:

21. This description is written from memory and photo review for closer details.

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

23. Date: 8 Feb 2021



















