

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: Golden Eagle - Aquila chrysaetos
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1 in juvenile plumage.
3. Parish: Vermillion Parish

Specific Locality: White Lake Wetlands Conservation Area—Birding & Nature Trail
~ Bird Location (29.919661, -92.523484)
4. Date(s) when observed: 02/10/2022
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 12:22PM
6. Reporting observer and city/state address
Reporting observer: William Matthews
1217 Bluewater cDr.
City: Mandeville
State: LA 70471
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): None
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): None to my knowledge

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Light conditions good. Bird ~300m due W of me with sun directly above me. Not backlit.

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

Binoculars - Swarovski 10x50 EL in good condition.

Camera - Canon EOS D7 with 100-400 zoom lens in good condition.

11. Distance to bird(s): ~300m

12. Duration of observation: ~2 minutes

13. Habitat: Predominantly rice fields.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Bird initially noted to be soaring on thermals loosely in vicinity of similarly soaring TUVUs. It caught my attention as it was notably larger than TUVUs, did not rock when soaring and had less of a dihedral than TUVUs. Initially the bird was heading due S at which time vI was fortunate to get a picture. It then slowly turned to a W heading and slowly moved out of sight. I tried unsuccessfully to relocate bird.

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*): L are dark raptor with a brownish head and neck. White patches at the base of the flight feathers with white at the base of longish narrow tail anterior to definite wide dark terminal band. Bulging secondaries noted.

16. Voice: Nonvocal

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

BAEA: Mature adult with all white head and tail & larger yellow bill.

Immature birds with longer neck, larger bill as well as white patches on body and other parts of wings.

TUVU: Differences as above also head is smaller and reddish.

BLVU: Shorter tail and neck with tendency to flap frequently.

All other raptors are substantially smaller.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): YES; obtained by me.

19. Previous experience with this species: Previously seen in Upper Ouachita WMA 02/09/2014 on bird found by C. Lyons.

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

a. at time of observation: Sibley smart phone app.

b. after observation: Cornell birds of the World and Sibley guide.

21. This description is written from:

notes made during the observation. No
notes made after the observation. Yes

Are notes attached? N/A

At what date? The evening after
the observation

memory YES

study of images YES

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

23. Date: 03/07/2022

Time:02:57PM

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

