

# 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: **Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucoides*)**
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
**One, first winter bird.**
3. Parish: **East Baton Rouge**  
Specific Locality: **BR Landfill, West Irene Rd.**
4. Date(s) when observed: **23 Jan 2018**
5. Time(s) of day when observed: **approx. 10:30-12:00am**
6. Reporting observer and address: **Dan Lane**  
**LSU Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70803**
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): **J. V. Remsen, Jr., Cameron Rutt.**
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 with late morning sunlight nearly straight behind us.**
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): **Swarovsky 80mm angled telescope with 25-60x eyepiece.**
11. Distance to bird(s): **approx.. 150-300 meters.**
12. Duration of observation: **at least 10 min.**

13. Habitat: shallow settling pond with rusty red mud in impoundment adjacent to landfill.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Observed as it stood and swam in the settling pond among a large group of gulls. At one point it flew up with other gulls in a “spooking” event, and Cameron managed to get photos of it in flight.

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 *Larus* about the size of a Herring, though more lightly-built; in first winter plumage. Very pale, with muted markings overall. Bill smallish and dull pink at the base, blackish at distal ½ or so. Wingtips had brownish centers to outer primaries with broad whitish margins, but seemed paler than a “Thayer’s” type, and suggested more a “Kumlien’s” type bird. I’m not certain if this bird is one of the two we’ve see here in the past two weeks, but it struck me as more pink-billed than previous individuals, and paler-plumaged. I suppose such things could change over that amount of time, however (bill color change with age and plumage bleaching)?

16. Voice: none noted.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Glaucous should have more obviously and contrastingly bicolored bill, heavier build. Pale or leucistic Herring would have darker primaries (at least ghosted in the latter case), and not appear quite so lightly-built.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, photos available on eBird page:

<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S42184987>

Cropped versions of Cameron Rutt’s flight photos attached below.

Video by Van here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/126193733@N06/39155714564>

19. Previous experience with this species: Fairly extensive, primarily in northeastern US.

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

a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: none

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

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

23. Date: 24 Jan 2018

Time: 3:15pm

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



photo by Cameron Rutt



Photo by Cameron Rutt