

# LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

## REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: Iceland Gull, *Larus glaucoides*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
One 1<sup>st</sup> year
3. Locality: Jefferson Davis Parish  
Specific Locality: Jeff Davis Landfill, Welsh area
4. Date(s) when observed: 12/09/2018
5. Time(s) of day when observed: ca. 10 a.m. .
6. Reporting observer and address: Paul Conover, Lafayette, LA
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):
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):  
Overcast but decent light
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon Fieldscope 20-60X, Zeiss 10s, Samsung S8 phone cam
11. Distance to bird(s): within 100 yards
12. Duration of observation: Probably about 30 minutes.
13. Habitat: Landfill area pond
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation: Resting, preening, fighting over a scrap.

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):

Superficially concolorous pale brownish "white-headed" gull with finely checkered wing coverts, pale-medium brown flight feathers of wing and tail, petite bill. Comparable in size with low end of the size spectrum Herrings.

Upperparts largely checkered or evenly barred with zigzags, pale medium brown on pale whitish brown. Coverts of wing checkered with confluent, lateral barring equally light and dark. Tertials solid pale brown wavy barring or distinct barring against whitish background distally. Outer primaries darker on outer webs with J-shaped hooks onto tips of inner webs of primaries, with dark outer/paler inner web pattern continuing onto inner primaries. Secondary bar about equal to ground color of primaries, not contrasting with rest of upperwing. Uppertail coverts whitish with pale brown transverse barring, about equally whitish and pale brown. Tail about color of secondaries; exact pattern of rects not apparent.

Underparts fairly evenly mealy brown patterned, matching medium-pale brown color values of upperparts. Undertail coverts about as uppertail. One stray covert feather obscured side view of undertail coverts; that feather was evenly and broadly banded brown on white, about 4 brown bands (see photo). This pattern was probably typical of covert feather pattern.

Head with darker crown and auriculars, pale hindcrown and nape, continuing diffusely to whiter chin and throat, creating a diffusely capped appearance.

Bill fairly short and with minor gonydeal angle, black with slightly paler base. Eye dark. Legs obscured by water.





16. Voice: Not picked out

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

No "pure" species match this phenotype. Hybrids could match color, and perhaps primary pattern, but doesn't appear to match Glaucous-winged hybrids, Glaucous hybrids, or other options.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photos and videos by me.

19. Previous experience with this species: Some, but given the range of phenotypes included within this species as currently constituted, experience can be somewhat scattershot.

20. This description is written from memory and videos.

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

22. Date: 12/24/2018