

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):

1 first winter

3. Parish: Acadia

Specific Locality: Private property accessed by personal permission

4. Date(s) when observed: 25 January 2020

5. Time(s) of day when observed: about 11:30

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

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

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Dave Patton (first observed the bird), Phillip Wallace

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 sunlight at a useful angle.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon Fieldscope III 20-60X, Zeiss 10X binos, Samsung 8S phonecam.

11. Distance to bird(s): 80-100 yards?

12. Duration of observation: About 10 minutes

13. Habitat: Garbage dump

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Dave observed the bird flying in.

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 Herring-like gull, but paler overall and on the petite and fine side.

Soft pale brown ground color overall, slightly paler on wing coverts. Sparse, fine darker markings on wing coverts of folded wings. Tertials with solid brown bases, marbled pale fringe

to tip. Folded wings with primaries slightly darker than tertials, and distinct pale fringes to tips. Bill dark and on the fine side for large gulls in terms of length and thickness and with slight gonydeal angle. Eye dark, legs pink.





Undertail coverts pale, cleanly and distinctly barred with thin medium brown bands.



Underwing coverts even pale brown, underside of flight feathers pale, whitish.

Upperwing pattern overall paler, without contrastingly darker areas. Inner wing coverts pale with pale brown internal markings, outer wing coverts solidly pale brown.



Secondaries fairly evenly pale brown, slightly paler than wingtips, and with slightly paler crescents on tips. Four inner primaries pale with darker markings on shaft near tip, expanding out near tip to form arrowhead patterns. Slightly paler markings on either side of the shaft just proximal to darker terminal markings. Primaries 5-10 with outer web darker, inner web except at tip paler. P5 with long thin paler internal oval within darker area on outer web echoing primaries 1-4.





Uppertail coverts about as undertail coverts, pale with distinct dark barring. Tail about equal in darkness to wingtips, with solidly dark inner rectrices except for paler marbled tips, with paler marbling becoming visible on inner half of rectrices moving outwards, and marbling coalescing into distinct bars on at least outer webs of outer rects.



16. Voice: Made typical gull screams, not distinctive as far as I can tell.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Many similar species and hybrids. This bird was clearly paler than Herring Gull, and not merely leucistic or worn. Various pale-winged large gulls can resemble this bird, but the small bill, overall petite proportions of this bird, and the markings within the typical range of Iceland make Iceland the

most likely candidate vs Glaucous-winged and its hybrids.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Video stills inserted, by me. Patton took a series of photos of the gull in flight.

19. Previous experience with this species: Annual or near-annual experience with birds ranging from paler Kumlien's-like birds to darker Thayer's types.

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: 2/2/2020

Time:

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