

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: Lark Bunting, *Calamospiza melanocorys*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1 adult male
3. Parish: Cameron
Specific Locality: Rutherford Beach at very entrance close to reeds
4. Date(s) when observed: 8.30.2023
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 4:49 pm
6. Reporting observer and address:
Kathy Rhodes, 5051 Bridgeport Way, Houma, LA 70360
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):
Jed Pitre
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):
It was bright and sunny. Bird was in good light.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
Nikon Coolpix B600 camera, Nikon Prostaff 3S 10x42 binoculars
11. Distance to bird(s): 30 feet. In vehicle.

12. Duration of observation: 5 minutes

13. Habitat: Sand near beach with small grass growing. Reeds close on side of road.

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

Bird was walking across the sand toward a clump of grass where it was foraging. It did not seem afraid of our vehicle nearby. We even crept further up, but not closer, to get a better view through driver side window of vehicle. I was on passenger side taking photos. Bird never flushed until we drove away. It flew over the reeds. We did not see it when we left but it was found again an hour or so later and again the next morning.

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*):

Saw bird walking across the sandy road toward the reeds. There were grackles walking too but this bird was much smaller. After seeing in binoculars, it had a head of a bunting. Then I saw the white wing patch. I immediately knew this was a Lark Bunting. I recently returned from a West Texas Davis Mountains Hummingbird Celebration where I saw this bird for the first time.

16. Voice: Did not hear

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Black bird but not a Red Wing. Had Bunting head and white wing patch.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):
Photos by me, Kathy Rhodes. Jed Pitre took photos also.

19. Previous experience with this species: Saw this bird first time just on August 17, 2003 at the Christmas Mountain Oasis in West Texas for the Davis Mountains Hummingbird Celebration. I did not get photos then.

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 type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

Yes

23. Date: 8.31.2023

Time: 7:42 am

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 _____







