

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: Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1, male, after second year
3. Parish: Cameron
Specific Locality: Peveto Woods Audubon Sanctuary
4. Date(s) when observed:
30 April 2017
5. Time(s) of day when observed:
17:50
6. Reporting observer and address:
Erik Enbody, 507 Adrienne St, Lafayette, LA 70503
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):
Paul Conover, Mac Myers, Erik Johnson, Grace Sprehn, others
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):
Seen in flight only backlit. Perched in good, early evening light.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
Nikon EDG 8x32, Nikon fieldscope (unknown power)
11. Distance to bird(s):
15m
12. Duration of observation:
15 minutes
13. Habitat:
Coastal oak forest

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

Other observers had apparently flushed this individual and we briefly saw it in flight when returning to search for the reported individual. A quick search of the area it had been seen flying into revealed the bird perched high in a nut tree.

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*):

In flight it showed stumpy wings characteristic of L. Nighthawk, but it was backlit and brief so we did not see the wing color well in flight. In the photos included, the white patch on four primaries is visible and located at about the tip of the tertials and not concealed (as is often for common). Also visible is a small spot located lower on the primaries. White spots on the wing coverts are also consistent with Lesser and not Common. One feature that is difficult to see is if P10 is shorter than P9, but the primaries do look relatively broad compared to Common. These characteristics are consistent with Lesser Nighthawk. I believe this bird should be sexed as male.

16. Voice:

Not vocal

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

Common Nighthawk and Antillean Nighthawk are both eliminated on the basis of pale spotting on the primaries basal to the white primary bar, white spots on lesser coverts, and the relative location of the white primary coloring near the edge of the tertials.

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

Photos yes

19. Previous experience with this species:

Lots of experience with this species, but typically of vocal individuals in flight in expected range. I have not encountered an extralimital individual perched before, but I do see Common Nighthawk perched frequently.

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

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation:

Sibley Guide to birds (app), some nice commentary on a NJ individual from M. Obrien here:

<https://cmboviewfromthecape.blogspot.com/2007/12/lesser-nighthawk-identification.html>

and the LOS birds webpage

21. This description is written from:

	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	Y
x	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	01 May 2017
	memory		
x	study of images		

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

Yes

23. Date: 1 May 2017

Time: 10:45am

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_____

















































