

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 as necessary. Please print or type. Attach xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. English and Scientific names: *Limpkin, Aramus guarauna*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
Two
3. Locality: Parish: Terrebonne
Specific Locality: Hollywood Rd at south end of Lake Houma--29.6116,-90.7212
4. Date(s) when observed: *02 February 2018*
5. Time(s) of day when observed: *0715 CST*
6. Reporting observer and address: *Robert C. Dobbs, Lafayette, LA*
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): *I overlapped with a number of other birders at the spot, incl. James Beck, Oscar Johnson, Dan Lane, and Van Remsen (to name a few)*
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): *Discovered by Michael Autin (31 January 2018, I think); subsequently seen by many*
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): *Birds were generally out in the open, beneath an overcast sky, 15-45 min after sunrise; so not bright, but "good" ambient light*
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): *Swarovski 8x30 binos (good condition), Nikon AF-S 300 mm 1:4 D camera lens (good condition), Pentax PF-80EDa spotting scope (good condition)*
11. Distance to bird(s): *25-35 m*

12. Duration of observation: 40 min

13. Habitat: ditch receiving water from culvert beneath road and adjacent wooded bank, bordering freshwater marsh (south end of Lake Houma)

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): foraging, for the duration of the observation; eating, among other things, apple snails

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): Wading bird, close to ibis in size and general proportions, brown body/wings w/ white spotting on back, upper wing covs, and breast. Neck paler, more evenly and finely streaked white. Bill only slightly decurved and mostly orange-horn w/ dark culmen and mandible tip. Legs dark gray.

16. Voice: Called once (unsolicited): a shrill, relatively high-pitched, but "thick," rising and falling scream.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Immature White Ibis superficially similar, but easily distinguished by this bird's overall brown plumage with white spots, and straighter, more horn-orange colored (not reddish orange) bill. Immature night-herons also easily eliminated by bill shape and color. All of those species also eliminated by voice.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? Attached?): Photos by Robert C. Dobbs, attached

19. Previous experience with this species: minimal... once in Florida a long time ago, and a handful in the tropics

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: _____ notes made during the observation (_____ notes attached?); X notes made after the observation (date: same day); _____ memory; X photos taken during the observation.

22. Are you positive of your identification if not, explain: Yes

23. Date: 02 February 2018 Time: 2100 CST

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





