

# 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](mailto:zoiseaux@lusfiber.net)> .

1. English and Scientific names: [Limpkin \(\*Aramus guarauna\*\)](#)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): [2, adults \(a courted pair?\)](#)
3. Parish: [Terrebonne](#)  
Specific Locality: [North Hollywood Rd., Houma, LA \(29.611727, -90.721020\)](#)
4. Date(s) when observed: [2 February 2018](#)
5. Time(s) of day when observed: [2:30 – 4:30 pm](#)
6. Reporting observer and address: [Erik I. Johnson, 102 Goodwood Cir., Lafayette, LA 70508](#)
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): [Delaina LeBlanc and Jed Pitre showed up a little after me, and stayed until after I left.](#)
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): [Found on 30 January 2018 by Michael Autin. Seen by many additional observers between initial report and my sighting.](#)
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): [Looking north from the road \(NW to NE\) in overcast \(even\) light, with a few breaks in clouds here and there.](#)
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): [Swarovski 10 x 42 EL binoculars, and digi-scoping with Swarovski 25-50x scope + Samsung S6 smartphone](#)

11. Distance to bird(s): As close as ~80 feet, and staying within 200 feet the entire time

12. Duration of observation: Pretty much throughout the entire 2 hours. When I first arrived one bird was mostly obscured by reeds and the 2<sup>nd</sup> wasn't visible. They were periodically calling during this period. Both birds eventually came out into the open to feed, where I could watch them continuously for about 45 minutes before I decided to leave.

13. Habitat: Freshwater marsh with lots of water hyacinth, a few saw-grass stands, and deciduous riparian treelines. Some kind of containment (boom) was set up to prevent hyacinth from entering culvert that ran under the road into a coulee on the other (south) side.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Completely relaxed and accustomed to the heavy traffic and the presence of gawking birders (as were all of the other waterbirds in the area – gallinules, herons & egrets, ibis, etc.). Resting/roosting/preening for about 1 hr 15 minutes, then foraging for the remainder of 45 minutes. Occasionally calling. One bird passed the other an apple snail that it had captured, which the other bird spent some time eating by placing it on the ground and picking at the operculum until the snail popped out. The other bird then caught itself another apple snail and ate along side this bird.

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*):

Superficially like an ibis (maybe most like a White Ibis), but obviously a different beast. Very distinctly marked with white chevrons or streaks on essentially every body feather (except the vent). Brightest white (least amount of brown) in the face and upper neck. Bill moderately heavy and slightly curved (less so than a White Ibis), and mostly dull yellow-orange (darker toward the tip). Iris medium brown and legs brown. Foraging on apple snails.

16. Voice: A loud “kr-kr-kr-keeeeeeee”, often repeated a couple times in succession.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Combination of white pattern on brown feathers, bill shape and color, and long brown legs eliminates all ibises, heronoids, and all other long-legged wading birds.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, photos attached. Two videos here:  
<https://vimeo.com/254076817>  
<https://vimeo.com/254076214>

19. Previous experience with this species: Only seen a few times in the tropics, including extended looks at close range in good light of a loafing and preening bird this past summer

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	That evening in eBird
<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: 3 February 2018

Time: 10:40 pm

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



