

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: Limpkin, *Aramus guarauna*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
2, don't know ages, sexes, plumages.
3. Parish: Terrebonne

Specific Locality: Houma, LA ; 0.2 Miles east of St. Louis Canal Rd. on N. Hollywood Rd., on the north side of the road within 35 feet of shoulder.

4. Date(s) when observed: Feb. 5, 2018

5. Time(s) of day when observed: 1:00 p.m.

6. Reporting observer and address: 6423 Millstone Ave. Baton Rouge, LA 70808

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): N/A

8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): N/A

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Cloudy and overcast - therefore no direct sun or harsh shadows. Photographs have subdued colors.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Vortex binoculars; Canon 5d; EOS 100-400 lens

11. Distance to bird(s): varying 3 yards to 12 yards

12. Duration of observation: 45 min.

13. Habitat: marsh with lots of vegetation in the near vicinity.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): I had heard from several sources where the birds were previously located, so I walked to the water's edge where I expected to find them and began looking. In less than 30 seconds I heard one of the birds calling loudly just over my shoulder. It was in a tree just next to the road and sitting at approximately my eye level. After a couple of minutes it stopped calling and flew down to the water in front of me and began feeding. It was soon joined by its companion which looked identical from what I can tell. The second bird seemed to be much more skittish than the first. After about ten minutes of looking for snails the second bird climbed into a large mound of grass and I didn't see it again. The first bird flew to the roadside and got on the actual shoulder of the road (N. Hollywood) which had fairly heavy traffic streaming by. After a couple of minutes it flew into a tree about 25 feet into the marsh and perched on a branch. It then called loudly for several minutes and was answered by its companion in the grassy mound. After it finally stopped calling it settled down and perched on one leg, appearing to take a break. It was resting thus when I left the location.

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*): The pictures are the best description. All that I can add is that at certain times it was able to beautifully camouflage itself itself in the winter-brown colored marsh environment.

16. Voice: Loud, very distinct, almost mournful cry. They also made a series of chucking sounds.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Immature White Ibis is the closest in appearance. But obviously a very different bird from the way it reacted to me (boldly yelling at me and not flying away when I got quite close), to the way it foraged.

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

19. Previous experience with this species: none

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

a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: none

21. This description is written from:
notes made during the observation. Are notes attached?
notes made after the observation. At what date?
memory
study of images
Memory ; 5 hours after the observation.

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

23. Date: Monday, February 5, 2018
Time: 6 p.m.

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_____







