

**LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
RARE BIRD DOCUMENTATION**

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Species: Long-tailed Duck, *Clangula hyemalis*
Location: Sankofa Wetlands Park, Orleans Parish, Louisiana
Date: 30 December 2020
Age and sex: Adult male
Molt status: Unknown
Number of individuals: One
Other observers: James Smithers, John Garrett, Matt Brady
Original observer: A continuing bird, unsure of original observer.

Circumstances: We chased this bird at a known location, easily locating it at the east end of the impoundment in which it had been previously seen. We watched it at our leisure in good light, and managed a few digi-scoped photos. eBird checklist:
<https://ebird.org/checklist/S78274987>

Description: A diving duck similar in size to nearby scaup, but shorter-necked. White head and neck, with small round black patch on lower auriculars, black back with a white blaze. Black wings. White rear end. Bill dark with a pale (pink?) band near tip). Actively diving in open water among water hyacinth.

Discussion: No confusion species possible. The combination of a solid white head (except the black auricular spot), white chest, and the white blaze on the back make this an adult male.

