

# 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: Long-tailed duck
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
One adult female. Winter plumage, dark crown area, white face and throat/neck, dark ear smudged, small, stubby bill. Dark back and dark breast. Didn't see underside. It remained in the pond and was foraging.
3. Parish: St Tammany  
Specific Locality: Howze Beach, pond next to the Harbor Center.
4. Date(s) when observed: 1-12-20
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 8:52, 8:54, 8:55. Still in same area when we departed.
6. Reporting observer and address: Janine Robin 13083 Blackwell Lane, Franklinton, LA 70438
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Malise Prieto and Willie Mathews
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Wanda and Mike Beelman (found it), Jody Shugart and Claire Thomas
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Heavy fog with a northerly wind at about 5-10 mph. Poor light.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10x50 Vortex binoculars and Nikon P900 camera
11. Distance to bird(s): 50 to 75 yards

12. Duration of observation: 15 minutes

13. Habitat: Large pond, surrounded by a levee on 2 sides, parking lot and Oak Harbor Blvd on the other 2 sides. No nearby trees.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Bird was feeding. Up for a few seconds, then would dive down for about 15 to 25 seconds. Did this frequently. Upon arrival, no one was in the huge parking lot except Willie Mathews. Very quiet with no threats for the 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*): At this distance, it appeared to be a large duck, the only other bird in the pond was a Red-breasted merganser, but not close to the duck for size comparison. Maybe about the size of a Redhead. Small stubby bill.

16. Voice: Silent

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): I don't know of another duck that looks like this one. I have seen 2 in St Tammany in the past and a pair in Washington State.

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

19. Previous experience with this species: See above

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification): Sibley, other birders and experience seeing the unusual looking duck.

a. at time of observation: Agreement with Malise and Willie that what we were observing was indeed a long-tailed duck.

b. after observation: Sibley, Natl Geo.

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	no
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
<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: 1-12-2020

Time:10:14pm

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\_\_\_\_\_

