

## LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Red Phalarope Phalaropus fulicarius
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
1 unsure age but largely basic aspect
3. Parish:  
Plaquemines Parish
4. Specific Locality:  
23 mi. SSW to 18 mi. S South Pass
5. Date(s) when observed: 20 Sep 2025
6. Time(s) of day when observed: ~3:50 PM
7. Reporting observer: David Vander Pluym
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):  
First called out by Paul Conover and Esme Rosen I believe. We were turning toward the Red-necked Phalaropes as they were separate at first (though soon after accidentally flushing the Red Phalarope it flew to and joined the Red-necked Phalaropes), they called out they had something else on the water. I saw it and the three of us directed the captain to the new bird as we could tell it was something better. Unsure who called out the species id first.
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):  
many on board
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): light was good at times
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10x42 Swarovskis
12. Distance to bird(s): Probably not less than 50 feet
13. Duration of observation: ~10 min
14. Habitat: Pelagic, hard water break between green and blue water which created a sargassum line

15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Actively feeding but would fly when got close to the boat

16. 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):

Obviously larger and paler than the Red-necked Phalaropes, with a shorter thicker black bill with a pale base. Underparts largely white, upperparts largely grayish with one tertial looking a little darker. Pale grayish on the auriculars and nape, otherwise head and neck white. Some pictures show some reddish on the rump.

17. Voice: high thin plek

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Red-necked Phalarope is smaller with thinner bill that also lacks pale base. Uniform gray upperparts also rule that species out.

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):  
yes attached. More on eBird <https://ebird.org/checklist/S275113924>

20. Previous experience with this species: 10's of thousands

21. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):

no

22. Identification aids used when?

None used

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

Yes

24. Date report completed:

27 Sep 2025

25. 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

26. If yes, may we include your name with the report?

Yes











