

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: Ringed Kingfisher, *Megaceryle torquata*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One female
3. Locality: Parish: St. Martin
Specific Locality: Lake Martin
4. Date(s) when observed: 13 February 2015
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 0930 CST
6. Reporting observer and address: Robert C. Dobbs, Lafayette, LA
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): None
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Many in subsequent days.
Note that Gary Meyers photographed the bird from a kayak in November and December, first on 2 November 2014.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Generally bright conditions under clear sky; bird was only observed while perched in shade of cypress canopy
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski 8x30 binos
11. Distance to bird(s): 100+ m
12. Duration of observation: 3 min
13. Habitat: cypress-dominated lake margin
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):
Perching, following prey attack attempt (dive)
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):

Large kingfisher; loud noise/magnitude of splash during dive initially drew my interest when I realized it was a kingfisher (seemed louder/bigger than a normal Belted Kingfisher dive). Exceptionally large bill w/ pale, horn-colored bases of mandible/maxilla. Slate blue head, back, wings, and breast band. Blue breast band bordered above by white throat and below by narrow white band. Completely rufous belly.

16. Voice: Did not vocalize during observation.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Belted Kingfisher superficially similar; eliminated by all-rufous belly and exceptionally large bill

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? Attached?): Photos by Robert C. Dobbs attached

19. Previous experience with this species: Plenty, in TX and Mexico

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

a. at time of observation: None

b. after observation: Nat Geo

21. This description is written from: X notes made during the observation (notes attached?); notes made after the observation (date:); memory.

22. Are you positive of your identification if not, explain: Yes, 100% positive

23. Date: 4 March 2015 Time: 2120 CST

