

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Red-necked Grebe; *Podiceps grisegena*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
4 adults in non-breeding plumage
3. Parish:
Jackson Parish
4. Specific Locality:
Caney Creek Reservoir Dam
5. Date(s) when observed: 2/14/2025
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 7:10
7. Reporting observer: J.D. Flores
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
N/A
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
Many, Steve Pagens, Caleb Persia, John Dillon, Rosemary Seidler, Shannon Jantz, among others.
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Slightly backlit but relatively dim lighting with it being cloudy and early morning.
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Vortex Crossfire HD 8x42 Binoculars, Panasonic Lumix FZ80 Refurbished, very good condition
12. Distance to bird(s): One pair at their closest got within 20 yards of me. The other pair which were more distant were about 100 yards from me at their closest.
13. Duration of observation: 40min approximately
14. Habitat: Large open freshwater reservoir

15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): The grebes were moving around a lot, occasionally diving under water so presumably foraging. The pair closest to me were observed briefly duetting.

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):

Large grebes with dark crowns, heavy yellow bills, white cheek, and overall dark gray body. Larger than nearby pied-billed grebes and horned grebe.

17. Voice: Whiney trill with a honking sound thrown in

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

Too large to mistake with a PBGR, HOGGR, or EAGR. The heavy down-curved yellow bill also eliminates those species.

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):

Yes, photos by me.

20. Previous experience with this species: I've seen one previous, red-necked grebe in VA last year. I'm fairly experienced with identifying grebes having seen all 7 North American grebes multiple times now.

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

Just went off of Steve Pagens photos from the day before and briefly glanced at Sibley's for a refresher on what to look for.

22. Identification aids used when?

At time of sighting

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

Yes, but I will note here that I only got documentation on closest pair. The pair of RNGR further out were spooked by a boater before I could get any identifiable photos. They never resurfaced in an area visible to me, but I can confidently say I saw 4 large grebes with dark crowns, yellow bills, and white cheeks.

24. Date report completed:

2/15/2025

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

