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>.

- 1. English and Scientific names: Red-necked Phalarope
- 2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 54-59
- 3. Parish: Plaquemines

Specific Locality: ca. 30-35 mi SE South Pass

- 4. Date(s) when observed: 2 Sep. 2017
- 5. Time(s) of day when observed: ca. 10:40-12:30
- 6. Reporting observer and address: Van Remsen, LSUMNS
- 7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): David Muth, Robb Dobbs, Paul Conover, and ca. 16 others
- 8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s):
- 9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): excellent, sunny, good light angles; see photos
- 10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10X50 binos
- 11. Distance to bird(s): Some as close as ca. 30 feet from boat
- 12. Duration of observation: Hard to say birds were in view to one extent or another for many minutes, perhaps 10?
- 13. Habitat: open Gulf in vicinity of Sargassum lines in blue water (see photos)

- 14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): From the bridge, I spotted what were obviously phalaropes swimming and flying along the rip lines, got everyone's attention, and then when we got close enough to see back pattern and bill shape, started calling them RNPH. Groups of 5 to 20 would fly up, out and away from the rip line and then either move ahead of us to be flushed again or peel off away from us. The count reflects my conservative estimate of the minimum number of non-duplicated individuals (54); we also had 5 more birds on the way back in roughly the same area that could have been duplicates.
- 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*): Obvious *Phalaropus* phalaropes by body shape and behavior (rapid head-bobbing behavior as they swam in irregular patterns, picking here and there at water surface. See photos for plumage.
- 16. Voice: We could occasionally hear "jip-jip" call notes.
- 17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): The only potentially confusable species is Red Phalarope, which has thicker, less needle-like bill and less pattern on the back (see photos)
- 18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): mine are attached
- 19. Previous experience with this species: Extensive experience in California and Colorado, although rather rusty, plus 1 in LA
- 20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):

a. at time of observation: None

b. after observation: None

21. This description is written from:

notes made during the observation. Are notes attached?
notes made after the observation. At what date?

X memory

X study of images

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

23. Date: 13 April 18

Time:

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? YES

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



