

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
5 juveniles together
3. Parish:
Plaquemines Parish
4. Specific Locality:
23 mi. SSW to 18 mi. S South Pass
5. Date(s) when observed: 20 Sept 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):
Many on board, I believe I first called them out
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 minutes but for a chunk of that was paying more attention to the Red Phalarope
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):

All were similar and seen in direct comparison with a Red Phalarope. Obviously smaller than the Red Phalarope with long needle like bills, lankier in appearance. Black cap and black through the eye onto the auriculars, otherwise head and neck were white except a thin black line on the back of the neck. Underparts white, maybe some gray smudge on the flanks. Upperparts black with the coverts having pale edges and noticeable pale brownish straw stripes on the back.

17. Voice: hard sharp klett

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):
Different structure and striped back ruled out Red Phalarope which was seen in direct comparison

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):
Yes mine are submitted many more are here <https://ebird.org/checklist/S275235971>

20. Previous experience with this species: tens 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

