

# 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](mailto:zoiseaux@lusfiber.net)> .

1. English and Scientific names: **Ruff** (*Calidris pugnax*)

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):

One basic male. Bird seemed relatively large compared to nearby shorebirds (e.g., Greater and Lesser yellowlegs, Long-billed Dowitchers), so judged to be a male.

3. Parish: *Jefferson Davis*

Specific Locality: Thornwell

4. Date(s) when observed: 16 October 2023

5. Time(s) of day when observed: Approximately 4:30-5:30 PM (eBird list runs 3:15-6 PM)

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Donna L. Dittmann and Steven W. Cardiff
City: 435 Pecan Drive, St. Gabriel
State: Louisiana

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): None.

8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): None.

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):

Good; clear, mild, wind N 10 mph, bird to east of our position with sun at our backs.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10 X 42 & 10 X 50 Leica binoculars in good condition, 20X zoom Kowa telescope – also in good condition.

11. Distance to bird(s): 100 meters

12. Duration of observation: 1 hour

13. Habitat: Shallow flooded disked field in rice field area.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Feeding/resting in a mixed-species shorebird flock. Thousands of grackles also staging across the field.

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*):

From eBird: Male in non-breeding plumage; photos; superficially similar to Greater Yellowlegs in size and shape but somewhat chunkier and more compact with shorter, slightly drooped bill, scalloped back pattern, and brighter orangish legs. In with loafing flock of LBDO, and a few of both yellowlegs and Stilt Sandpipers for comparisons.

16. Voice: Not heard.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): None. Unique shorebird species.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): See eBird list.

By DLD – distant and not the best (best also pasted below) however, bird is certainly identifiable as this species in all of the photos.

19. Previous experience with this species: We have found/documented at least 10 in Louisiana as well as seeing the species in California (both observers) and Alaska (SWC).

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:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation. No – relied on photos	Are notes attached? No	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation. No		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images and Ebird checklist details: <a href="https://ebird.org/checklist/S152546241?_gl=1*5qq56c*_ga*ODA4NDk1Njk5LjE3MDk1ODg5NjE.*_ga_QR4NVXZ8BM*MTcwOTk5OTc2My4xMi4xLjE3MDk5OTk4MjIuMS4wLjA.&amp;_ga=2.170632800.1983448684.1709936940-808495699.1709588961">https://ebird.org/checklist/S152546241?_gl=1*5qq56c*_ga*ODA4NDk1Njk5LjE3MDk1ODg5NjE.*_ga_QR4NVXZ8BM*MTcwOTk5OTc2My4xMi4xLjE3MDk5OTk4MjIuMS4wLjA.&amp;_ga=2.170632800.1983448684.1709936940-808495699.1709588961</a>		

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

23. Date: 9 March 2023

Time: 10 AM

24. 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\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, may we include your name with the report? \_Yes\_\_\_\_\_



