

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
Two juveniles
3. Parish: Caddo
4. Specific Locality: Cross Lake
5. Date(s) when observed: September 12, 2025
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 6:30-7:15 pm
7. Reporting observer: Charles Lyon
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Melissa Weaver
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): None
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Excellent lighting conditions with clear skies. We were in my boat and observed both birds from multiple angles sitting in water and flying.
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10x42 Swarovski binoculars
12. Distance to bird(s): As close as 10 feet
13. Duration of observation: 45 minutes
14. Habitat: Open water and calm with no wind
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): We were concluding a bird survey by boat and one bird was noted sitting on water where we had been earlier. We went to it and while I was photographing it, a second bird flew in. Both birds were tame allowing close approach by the boat as they were actively fishing for shad. Multiple photos were obtained.
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):

Two immature delicate tern like gulls, grayish brown heads and necks, dark eyes and bills, boldly patterned black and white upper wing with scaly pattern on back.

17. Voice: Silent

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

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):
Multiple photos taken, nine of which are included with this report,

20. Previous experience with this species: Extensive

21. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):
None

22. Identification aids used when?

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

24. Date report completed:
September 20, 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









