

## LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
one bird in juvenile plumage
3. Parish:  
Vermilion
4. Specific Locality:  
End of Marsh Road near Mouton Cove, LA
5. Date(s) when observed: Aug. 17, 2025
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 10:30 am
7. Reporting observer: Michael Musumeche
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):  
none
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):  
clear skies with sun at my back
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 20x60 Swarovski scope
12. Distance to bird(s): 150 meters
13. Duration of observation: 8 minutes
14. Habitat: recently drained crawfish pond with scattered pools of water and mostly mud.
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): bird was actively feeding

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):

Sandpiper with bright rufous crown, strong white supercilium, orange buffy breast, yellow/green legs, dorsal surface mottled with orange/buffy feathering

17. Voice: none noted due to distance

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

Pectoral Sandpiper has darker crown, breast with dark streaking which stops abruptly at lower breast.

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

Yes, #7 above. Was only able to secure one photo which is highly cropped due to distance

20. Previous experience with this species: none, I am familiar with its features from the literature.

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

When I first observed it, I was fairly certain I knew what it was. I also was aware that there are no previous records for Louisiana.

22. Identification aids used when?

After observation

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

Not 100% since I only observed it from a great distance and the only image shows most of the features but more photos would be desired.

24. Date report completed:

08/Aug/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



