

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 as necessary. Please print or type. Attach xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. English and Scientific names: Western Grebe / *Aechmophorus occidentalis*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): one, unknown sex, adult

3. Locality: Parish: Union

Specific Locality: Bayou D'Arbonne Lake from Pleasure Island Rd

4. Date(s) when observed: 11/15/2014

5. Time(s) of day when observed: 12:00 noon for about 8 minutes

6. Reporting observer and address: Mary Mehaffey, 84305 Cobblestone Ct., Folsom, La 70437, m11mehaffey@att.net

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Cham Mehaffey, Rosemary Seidler, Steve Pagans

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): previously reported by Terry Davis, Jay Huner, and Steve Pagans 11/14/2014

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): overcast day bird out in open water no shade on it

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Brunton 20 x 60 Scope, excellent condition
11. Distance to bird(s): about 200 yds.
12. Duration of observation: about 8 minutes
13. Habitat: Fresh water lake
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): resting with neck folded and head on back; and swimming with head up
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): Much larger than Horned Grebe or Pied-billed Grebe, had black head with black extending around eye, back of neck black and black back; white cheeks, neck, and belly; very long dull yellow pointed bill
16. Voice: did not call
17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Common Loon is much larger bird with thicker bill and shorter neck; this bird was smaller than Doubled-crested Cormorant and had thinner and longer bill
18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): none
19. Previous experience with this species: seen at Lake Hodges, CA in August

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification): The Sibley Guide to Birds; National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America

a. at time of observation: The Sibley Guide to Birds

b. after observation: National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America

21. This description is written from: x notes made during the observation (notes attached?); notes made after the observation (date:); memory.

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

23. Date: 11/18/2014 Time: 4:15 pm

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

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