

# 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 (age/sex unknown)
3. Locality: Parish:     Caddo      
Specific Locality:     Cross Lake
4. Date(s) when observed: 10 January 2016
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 1025-1035 CST
6. Reporting observer and address: Robert C. Dobbs, Lafayette, LA
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Charlie Lyon, Mac Myers, Paul Conover, Phillip Wallace, Dave Patton, Dan O'Malley, Terry Davis, Ronnie Maum, and Larry Raymond
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Bright light of clear winter sky
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski 8x30 binos, good condition
11. Distance to bird(s): 150 m (?)
12. Duration of observation: off-and-on for about 10 min
13. Habitat: open water
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): On water, but diving frequently and remaining at distance; wary

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): A large, long-necked, black-and-white grebe with long, greenish-yellow bill. Significantly larger than Ruddy Ducks (in general vicinity), and thus, by proxy, Horned or Eared grebes. Back, hindneck, and crown black, with black extending down on face to include eye; black contrasting with immaculate white auriculars, throat, foreneck, and breast (remainder of underparts not seen).

16. Voice: not vocal

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Clark's Grebe eliminated by black of crown extending down to include eye, and greenish-yellow bill color (not bright yellow as in Clark's)

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? Attached?): Dan O'Malley got identifiable photos during observation; Charlie Lyon got very good photos upon discovering the bird 30 December 2015, and again on 6 January 2016

19. Previous experience with this species: extensive, having lived/worked/birded in the western US (AZ, UT, CO) for 10+ years

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:  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, positive

23. Date: 14 January 2016 Time: 1800 CST

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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