

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: **White-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albicaudatus hyospodius*)**
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One subadult (presumed second-year individual)
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: (parish) **Cameron Parish**

Specific Locality: **off LA-82, ca. 5 mi. W of Holly Beach**
4. Date(s) when observed: **17 October 2013**
5. Time(s) of day when observed: **~11:10 – 11:30 AM CDT**
6. Reporting observer and address: **Devin Bosler**
14112 Crossing Way East
Edmond, OK 73013
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): **N/A**
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):

Mostly cloudy sky with optimal midday sunlight. Sun angle fairly high and away from observer. Backlighting or glare not problematic.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): **Zeiss Victory FL 8x42, Kowa TSN 88 series w/ 88 mm angled eyepiece (40-60x zoom), Canon Powershot HS 110 digital elph point-and-shoot camera (equipment in excellent condition).**

11. Distance to bird(s): **ca. 50 meters**

12. Duration of observation: **~20 min.**

13. Habitat: **Open/ semi-open disturbed livestock pastures, mixed-grass coastal prairie, overgrown baccharis-saltcedar scrub, dune scrub, open sandy-muddy beachfront, rural residential, etc. on Gulf of Mexico.**

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):

First observed in flight actively hunting (hovering at times), going generally east-to-west, over unimproved prairie-pasture just north of highway and beach. It eventually perched on a metal road sign to preen briefly. Within a few minutes, it was up again and moving westbound down immediate coast.

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 medium to large-sized, long-winged *Buteo* sp. with dark blackish upperparts and paler underparts. Blackish head with subtle white markings on face (eyebrow and behind auriculars). Dark mottled underparts with prominent white breast patch. Browner, barred (retained juvenal) flight feathers, especially secondaries and tertials, apparent on folded wing. New adult-like, darker scapulars and upperwing coverts coming in giving mottled appearance to mantle/ back. Silvery, barred remiges with dark terminal band (when observed in flight). Paler, gray tail with narrow dark bands and broad subterminal band. Wing tips exceed tail tip in length when perched. Whitish undertail coverts. Grayish-blue cere and blackish bill. Bright yellow legs and feet. Dark brown irides.

16. Voice: **Short series of high-pitched, raspy single and two-noted 'ke-he' calls.**

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):
No other similar N.A. raptors.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): **Yes, digiscoped photos by Devin Bosler. Yes, attached.**

19. Previous experience with this species:

Very familiar with this species from countless trips to coastal TX and interior s. TX in addition to multiple individuals in coastal and interior sw. LA.

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

a. at time of observation: **none**

b. after observation: **Various online/ web resources.**

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

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

23. Signature of reporter: **Devin Bosler** Date: **16 April 2015** Time: **10:00 PM CDT**

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? **Yes, please.**

If yes, may we include your name with the report? **Yes, please.**





