

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 or files as necessary. Please print or type for hard copy. For electronic copy, be sure to save this file to your computer before entering text. Attach field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed (if hard copy), mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216, or e-mail electronic copy as an attachment to Paul Edward Conover at <zoiseaux@lusfiber.net> .

1. English and Scientific names: White-tailed Hawk (*Geranoaetus albicaudatus*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One unsexed immature
3. Parish: Orleans
Specific Locality: Intersection of Louisa St. & Higgins
4. Date(s) when observed: 27 November 2017
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 1035
6. Reporting observer and address: James W. Beck 5077 Highland Dr. Marrero, LA 70072
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): n/a
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): n/a
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Clear skies; bird soaring directly overhead
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Vortex 8x42 Diamondbacks
11. Distance to bird(s): ca. 20 yards
12. Duration of observation: ca. 3 minutes
13. Habitat: Soaring over residential neighborhood badly damaged during Hurricane Katrina, involving plenty of overgrown and open woodlots, fields, etc.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Soaring NNW and being mobbed by American Crows.

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, *or for species that are known to hybridize frequently, stress features that help eliminate possible hybrids*): Large Buteo, head, body and marginal coverts dark chocolate (almost black, with light mottling in marginal coverts), primaries and secondaries light with dark, pronounced barring. Upper chest had an irregularly-shaped white "splash", leading towards belly. Tail light-colored with fine barring, but not pure white with subterminal band as in adults. Wings longer and appeared more narrow than in Red-tailed Hawks.

16. Voice: n/a

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Red-tailed Hawk has shorter, broader wings and although many RTHAs are extremely variable, including "Harlan's", this bird possessed the typical white "splash" on the upper chest, where it is usually expected. Also, this bird had no subterminal or terminal band.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): No

19. Previous experience with this species: I have seen this species on five previous occasions in Louisiana (both adults and immatures), as well as numerous times in south Texas.

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

a. at time of observation: n/a

b. after observation: Sibley and National Geographic 7th Edition

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

23. Date: 27 November 2017
Time: 1941

24. 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 _____

If yes, may we include your name with the report? ___ Yes _____