

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 (*Geranoaetus albicaudatus*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): Two, one first winter and one apparent second winter.
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: (parish) _____ Calcacieu _____
Specific Locality: _____ Fruge Rd between Lionel Derouen and Rossigniol Rd. _____
4. Date(s) when observed: 19 October, 28 October, 4 November 2017
5. Time(s) of day when observed: between 4:25-5:20pm on all visits.
6. Reporting observer and address: Daniel Lane
LSU Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): J. V. Remsen, Jr., Cory Gregory, various tour participants.
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): First found by Paul Conover, seen by many observers.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Fair, often backlit, but with enough direct light to see important field marks.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss 10x40, Leica 10x42 binoculars, Swarovski 82mm angled scope with 25-60x eyepiece.
11. Distance to bird(s): easily a quarter mile on all three visits.
12. Duration of observation: total, perhaps about 20 min.

13. Habitat: large pasture with weedy fenceline with some small trees along it and an adjacent overgrown pasture with small trees.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Seen in late afternoon on all three visits, when perched in trees at a fair distance, usually in close proximity to one another, suggesting some close relationship (paired? Siblings from staggered years?). Not more than about 5m of ground, not seen flying except to change perches.

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): First year bird was a large, dark Buteo-like hawk with long wings that extended slightly past tail tip. Dark plumage overall with obvious white blaze on chest. Second year bird was similar in shape, but with gray upperparts, chestnut shoulders, dark throat, white underparts and tail with dark on flanks and subterminally on tail.

16. Voice: None heard.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Among North American hawks, the shape is fairly distinctive, with the white chest blaze characteristic of first year bird and the gray upperparts, chestnut shoulders, and white underparts typical of second-year and adult birds. These characters exclude other expected species, and South American Variable Hawk should have paler throat and more extensive rufous on back in similar plumages.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Links to eBird lists with photos:
<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S40030059>

19. Previous experience with this species: Fairly extensive in LA (at least two previous birds seen), TX, Mexico, and Bolivia.

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: _____);

X memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter: _____ Daniel Lane _____ Date: __14 Jan
2018_ Time: __5:15pm__

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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