

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
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One subadult. See ebird report for plumage details.

3. Parish: Calcasieu Parish
Specific Locality: Tom Stegal Road near La 397

4. Date(s) when observed: August 2, 2021

5. Time(s) of day when observed: 2 to 2:30 pm

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: David Booth
City: Lake Charles, LA 70605
State: LA

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Charlotte Chehotsky was in the area independently and also observed the bird from a different angle and vehicle. She first relocated the bird and called me over.

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Charlotte Chehotsky and the original finder who was Kirsten Fruge' Livingston.

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Bird was perched in an open exposed limb with no obstructions. Light was good, but was overcast. Sun peaked out a few times during the 20 minutes of observation.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Observation was mostly via 80x scope.

11. Distance to bird(s): estimated distance was about 125 yards.

12. Duration of observation: Studied the bird for about 20 minutes.

13. Habitat: Cattle pasture/prairie type area.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Bird was mostly perched with back to observer. It would constantly turn its' head from side to side and preened a few times exposing its' tail very well for views.

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*):

“Sub-adult bird. Large buteo type body style. White tail with dark/blackish terminal band and white edge. Reddish shoulders which wrapped around the back toward the middle. Long wings. While perched, the tips extended 1/2 to 1 inch beyond the tail. The back was dark overall with a little mottling (no frontal view allowed). The head was dark, but had white eyebrows on each side above the eye extending past the eye somewhat. Did not see any other white patches on the cheek or auricular area. Bill seemed longish compared to RTHA. It was a light blue with a dark tip. Legs were yellow and feathering around legs was light colored and the lower belly had light colored feathering. This could only be seen when the bird turned a bit to look over its shoulder.” Source is ebird report.

16. Voice: No vocalization

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Maybe a Red-shouldered Hawk with reddish shoulders. There was no checkering of the bird plumage and the bird was much chunkier and not as slender as a RSHA.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photos (very poor ones) are at the ebird record. They may be seen at:

<https://ebird.org/checklist/S92671243>

19. Previous experience with this species: I have seen this species a few times in Texas and saw the one at Grand Isle a few years back several times in Exxon Field.

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

a. at time of observation: In the field I reviewed Sibley's Ap.

b. after observation: None

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 immediately detailing the sighting.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

23. Date: August 2, 2021

Time: 3 pm.

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_____