

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-winged Scoter, *Melanitta fusca*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
one, Female (I believe)
3. Parish: Natchitoches
Specific Locality: Red River N of Lock and Dam No. 3 near former NSU Aquaculture Research Center
4. Date(s) when observed:
Dec 5, 2014
5. Time(s) of day when observed:
Approximately 15:00 until I left at 16:15
6. Reporting observer and address:
Florinus Kooyman, fkooyman@gmail.com, 4520 Terraceview Lane N, Plymouth, MN 55446
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):
None
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):
Overcast, no shade. Bird was north of me, away from sun (behind clouds)
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
Vortex Viper scope 45X, good view but low resolution due to distance
11. Distance to bird(s):
Approximately one quarter mile.
12. Duration of observation:

About 30 minutes over the course of one hour.

13. Habitat:

Main channel of Red River, upstream of spillway

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

Swimming and diving with small group of Scaup

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*):

Dark or black duck with white stripe of secondaries on wing, white patch over or near eye (I could not make out the eye itself) and another white or whitish patch at base of bill. Bird raised itself briefly and flapped wings, underwing white/dark pattern matched Sibley's drawing for underwing of White-winged Scoter. The bird appeared to be somewhat larger than Scaup next to it.

16. Voice:

None

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

I searched my guidebooks but could not find a duck with same pattern.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):

Four photographs, see checklist <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S20823833>

19. Previous experience with this species:

Two observations in Alaska, June 2014

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

a. at time of observation:

Ibird Pro app, Natl. Geo Field Guide sixth edition

b. after observation:

Sibley Guide, Cornell Labs online bird guide

21. This description is written from:

notes made during the observation. Are notes attached?

notes made after the observation. At what date?

X memory

study of images

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

I don't have much experience with this species and almost no experience with the birds of Louisiana, so I can't be 100% positive, but can think of no other species that matches what I saw.

23. Date: December 6, 2014

Time: 9:30 a.m.

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_____