

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>](mailto: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): 1 female
3. Parish: La Fourche Parish
La Hwy 1 East of Port Fourchon
4. Date(s) when observed: March 23, 2019
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 8:50 AM
6. Reporting observer and city/state address
Reporting observer: William H. Matthews
City: Mandeville
State: Louisiana
1217 Bluewater Dr.
70471
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): Clear with good light and bird flying essentials E->W at eye level just N of me ~ 50m at closest approach.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski 10x50 binoculars ~ 3mo old.

11. Distance to bird(s): From 200m down to 50m flyby at eye level.

12. Duration of observation: ~15se total

13. Habitat: Marsh with large areas of open water.

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

I was heading ENE on LA 1 ~1.5mi E of intersection at Port Fourchon, parked observing scattered flocks of LESC. Flyby with bird paralleling highway ~50m N of rd headed WSW. Bird flying with continuous wingbeats ~5ft above water surface. Closest approach to me ~50m. 10x bins with good light. Mallard-sized duck but thicker-bodied. All black except for unmistakable large white patches on trailing edge of wings (secondaries) and small whitish patches on side of head. Bill appeared dark. Not able to photo.

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*): See above.

16. Voice: Nonvocal.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): White wing secondaries well seen eliminate other scoters. Not big enough for Muscovy Duck.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Not able.

19. Previous experience with this species: Previously found WWSC on Chatham lake in past years during Winter Bird Survey.

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

a. at time of observation: App on iPhone.

b. after observation: Sibley Book

21. This description is written from:
notes made during the observation. Are notes attached?
notes made after the observation. At what date?
memory-Yes
study of images

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

23. Date: Marc 26, 2019
Time:08:00AM

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 _____