

Louisiana Ornithological Society's  
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-winged Scoter, *Melanitta fusca*

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):

3.

1, apparent adult female.

4. Locality: LOUISIANA: (parish) (specific locality)

East Baton Rouge Parish, north end of Capitol Lake directly north of Louisiana State Capitol Building

5. 4. Date(s) when observed:

November 20, 2020

6. Time(s) of day when observed:

11:45 AM CST

7. Reporting observer and address:

Jay V. Huner, 428 Hickory Hill Drive, Boyce, Louisiana 71409

8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):

None.

9. Other observers who Independently identified the bird(s):

Matt Brady and many others.

10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):

Clear, light clouds. Sun overhead.

11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):

Swarovski EL 10 x 42 Binoculars – good condition, and Nikon CoolPix P-1000 camera.

12. Distance to bird(s):

Approximately 200 yards.

13. Duration of Observation:

Approximately 20 minutes.

14. Habitat:

Small urban lake.

15. Behavior of bird/circumstances of observations (flying, feeding, resting; including and stress habits in identification: relate events surrounding observation):

Loafing and preening in company with a pair of Lesser Scaup.

16. 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):

Sea Duck, large relative to nearby Lesser Scaup. Basic body color was brown. Face had two distinct white spots, one ovalish in front of eye, and other more oblong behind the eye. One image suggested white secondary feathers as bird preened. White secondary feathers were not otherwise evident. Bill with distinct hump on dorsal base.

17. Voice:

Not heard.

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

Possible confusion with female Surf Scoter– apparently larger when compared to adjacent Lesser Scaup and different facial pattern.

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? Attached?):

Several submitted with eBird report. Also, with this electronic submission.

20. Previous experience with this species:

I have recorded White-winged Scoter in Louisiana at least 4 times previously.

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

- a. at time of observation: ibirdpro iphone app.
- b. after observation: National Geographic Field Guide; Peterson Field Guide.
- c.

22. This description is written from: \*\_notes made during the observation (notes attached?); \_x\_note made after the observation (date: \_\_11/20/2020\_\_); \_x\_\_ memory.

\*eBird narrative. Staked out bird. Larger than adjacent scaup. Brownish overall color. Distinct white ovals in front and below the eyes. White wing feathers barely evident in first image.

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

Yes

24. Signature of reporter \_\_\_Jay V. Huner\_\_\_ date 11/29/2020 time 5:55 PM





