

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 deglandi*)

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

3. Parish: East Baton Rouge

Specific Locality: Capitol Lake

4. Date(s) when observed: Found 11.11.2020, subsequently observed 11.15, 11.17, and 11.23

5. Time(s) of day when observed: Originally found about 16:30, later observations in afternoons and evenings

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Nick Ramsey
City: Baton Rouge
State: Louisiana

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): None

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Oscar Robertson, Matt Brady, Dan Lane, Robb Brumfield, Van Remsen

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Bird was well lit and in the open at initial encounter

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Vortex 12x50 Binoculars, slightly broken but functional

11. Distance to bird(s): ~50 yards

12. Duration of observation: Initially about five minutes, then left to get word out and came back for another 30 minutes

13. Habitat: Small city lake

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

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*): Large, dark, solitary duck with heavy proportions. Two white spots on head, one on cheek behind the eye and one closer to the bill base. Bill very large, pale. White secondaries visible occasionally while the bird was swimming.

16. Voice: Silent

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Surf scoter eliminated by white secondaries

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): I did not take any, images were obtained by Matt Brady, Oscar Johnson, Dan Lane, Van Remsen, and others after the original sighting. They are not attached

19. Previous experience with this species: I have some experience with this bird in all plumages from the Washington and Oregon coasts in spring 2016, as well as a small group of female-type birds in Montana in 2015.

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:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		

study of images

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

23. Date: 12.1.2020

Time: 23:00

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