

12 Feb 81  
Exp.

81-30A

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
REPORT FORM

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of unusual birds. It may be used flexibly and need not be used at all. Leave blank any details not observed. Attach additional sheets if necessary. Please print or type. Attach drawings, photographs, etc.; include all photos if an obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to the Secretary of the LOS Bird Records Committee.

1. Common and scientific name: European Wigeon Mareca penelope
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): one male
3. Locality: Louisiana: New Orleans Parish: Orleans  
"Recovery I" landfill
4. Date(s) when seen: December 14, 1980
5. Times of day when seen: 11:45 a.m. CST
6. Reporting observer and address:  
Robert D. Purrington/Dept. of Physics, Tulane University, New Orleans, La. 70118
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:  
Norton Nelkin
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird:
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):  
Clear sky, full sunlight, sun at about 90° to direction of observation
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):  
Balscope, 30X
11. Distance to bird: 75-80 yards (75 meters)
12. Duration of observation: 5 minutes
13. Habitat (general and specific): marshy pond
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification): Discovered swimming and feeding on pond, subsequently flew away with flock of American Wigeons.
15. Description (Include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen. Include if possible: total length; body bulk; shape, bill, eye, and leg characteristics; color and pattern of plumage, etc. Stress field marks):  
Rusty-red head (as in Canvasback or Redhead), pale rusty breast, gray sides, no rust on sides. Wigeon wing pattern in flight. Seen from all directions as it turned on the water. Direct comparison with Am. Wigeons. Pale yellow crown stripe ("baldpate").

Subsequently seen by dozens, including Robert J. Newman, Bruce Crider, Sidney Gauthreaux, Mac Myers, Joe Kennedy. Seen at least through Feb. 1, 1981  
1/8/81

16. Voice:

17. Similar species (include how they are eliminated by your observations):

18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?): *Not yet available*

Photographed by Mac Myers (date unknown)  
Photographed by this observer (RDP) on Dec. 26, 1980.

19. Previous experience with this species:

Seen at Wakulla Springs, Fla. in March 1970.

20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification

a) at time of observation;

Robbins

b) after observation:

Peterson E. Guide, Brunn European Guide

21. This description written from: \_\_\_\_\_ notes made during observation; X notes made after observation; \_\_\_\_\_ memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter: *[Handwritten Signature]*

24. Date and time of writing this account:

Feb. 7, 1981/see attached sheet written one hour after observation

EUROPEAN WIGEON December 14, 1980 New Orleans, La.

Robert D. Furrington

These notes have been transcribed from the originals made one hour after the observation.

Male European Wigeon seen for 3-5 minutes at less than 100 yards using Balseope with 30X eyepiece. Full sunlight (clear sky), direction to bird was between NE and ENE, sun was almost exactly due south (time of observation was 11:45 a.m. CST)--lighting was thus excellent. The bird was sitting on a pond (water calm) with perhaps 10 American Wigeons, male and female. The bird was seen from all directions as it turned on the water. The head was completely red (as in a Redhead or Canvasback, or redder yet), except for pale yellow "baldpate" crown stripe. No rusty coloration on sides. The observation was terminated when the bird took flight with the other wigeons.

Other observers: Norton Nelkin

Location: "Recovery I" landfill area just south of US 90 about 1/2 mile west of the junction with US 11.

Addendum: following the observation, we called a number of observers, at least three groups of which found the bird again in mid-afternoon. Photographs were taken by Mac Myers which might be definitive, though the bird was at considerable distance.

These notes were written without consultation with and independently of any which may be submitted by Dr. Nelkin

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
REPORT FORM

81-30C

DUPL

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of unusual birds. It may be used flexibly and need not be used at all. Leave blank any details not observed. Attach additional sheets if necessary. Please print or type. Attach drawings, photographs, etc.; include all photos if an obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to the Secretary of the LOS Bird Records Committee.

1. Common and scientific name: *European Wagtail*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): 1 adult male
3. Locality: Louisiana: New Orleans Parish: Orleans
4. Date(s) when seen: 12/27/70 - check-out present before & after date
5. Times of day when seen: shortly after dawn
6. Reporting observer and address: ~~max~~ Joseph C Kennedy 13717 Claf Montclair Apt  
N.O. La 70129
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird: many others  
found by Stan Harrington
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird: many
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): good direct light
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 25x scope & binoculars
11. Distance to bird: 200 yards
12. Duration of observation: 10 minutes
13. Habitat (general and specific): small pond in marsh - good food supply
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification): with small group of American wagtails - flying short distances to feed.
15. Description (Include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen. Include if possible: total length; body bulk; shape, bill, eye, and leg characteristics; color and pattern of plumage, etc. Stress field marks):  
side by side with American wagtails. grey back & sides - appeared to be more white on sides, chestnut breast & abdomen

16. Voice: *not noted*

17. Similar species (include how they are eliminated by your observations):

*side by side with Am. wren - compared to my photographs & recently published descriptions of hybrids. This is not a hybrid wren -*

18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?): *Don Perrington has taken*

19. Previous experience with this species: *many occasions in California, Washington, Massachusetts*

20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification

a) at time of observation;

b) after observation:

21. This description written from: \_\_\_\_\_ notes made during observation; X notes made after observation; \_\_\_\_\_ memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter: *[Handwritten Signature]*

24. Date and time of writing this account: *12/17/50*