

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, photographys, 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: **Greater Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*)**
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. *Zad.* in breeding plumage): **One (1), adult plumage.**
3. Locality: Louisiana: **Cameron** Parish: **Rutherford Beach, approx. one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) mile west of the summer homes on the open beach.**
4. Date(s) when seen: **2 March 1985**
5. Times of day when seen: **9:00 AM**
6. Reporting observer and address: **D. T. Kee, Northeast La. University, Monroe, LA**
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:
None
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird:
Ornithology class (with aid of field guides)
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): **Overcast but light conditions good.**
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
Bushnell 7x35 binoculars.
11. Distance to bird: **30 - 50 yards.**
12. Duration of observation: **Approx. 15 minutes.**
13. Habitat (general and specific):
Gulf beach, sand. Near edge of water.
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification): **Resting. The gull was in a mixed group of Herring Gulls (3), Ring-billed Gulls (8) and Laughing Gulls (30+). The gulls flushed three times and each time settled back on the beach within a couple of hundred yards.**
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):
A large gull with coal black wings and mantle. Legs were of a pinkish or flesh color. Head and tail white.
The gull, when standing in an alert posture next to a mature Herring Gull, appeared to be at least 4-5 inches taller. The bird was correspondingly more robust.

Posterior margin of extended wing white.
JK

16. Voice: **Could not distinguish it's voice due to the general uproar of the other gulls when flushed.**
17. Similar species (include how they are eliminated by your observations):
Lesser Black-backed Gull - Size differentiation in comparison to adult Herring Gull.
18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?):
None
19. Previous experience with this species:
None
20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification
a) at time of observation,
b) after observation:
Peterson - A Field Guide to the Birds
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: *Dani Q. Kee*
24. Date and time of writing this account: **1600 14 March 1985**