

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: Purple Sandpiper (Calidris maritima)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): one, basic
3. Locality: Louisiana: Cameron Parish: W. Jetty, 1/2 mi S Calcasieu Pass
4. Date(s) when seen: 17 December 1988 (Sabine Christmas Bird Count)
5. Times of day when seen: approx 1045 - 11⁰⁰ AM
6. Reporting observer and address:
Donna L. Dittmann LSU Museum of Natural Science 119 Foster Hall, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:
Jim Stewart
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):
excellent, bird on rocks on channel side of west jetty, observed from boat in channel.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
8x40 binoculars (Leitz, Trinovid)
11. Distance to bird: as close as 20 ft.
12. Duration of observation: ≈ 15 min (much of which used attempting to photograph bird)
13. Habitat (general and specific):
jetty rocks

14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification):
first found sleeping with flock of Ruddy Turnstones and Sanderlings above high tide line on rocks; later feeding along water's edge on rocks with Turnstones & Sanderlings, also observed in flight!
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):

- 1) a small plump sandpiper intermediate in size between Sanderlings and Ruddy Turnstones
- 2) bill longer and drooping as compared to Sanderlings, somewhat reminiscent of the bill of a ♂ Dunlin but with a dull orange base to lower mandible.
- 3) legs proportionately shorter / per body size compared with Sanderlings, dull orange
- 4) head uniformly dark grey - no obvious face pattern
- 5) back dark grey, centers of back feathers bluish-grey, most noticeable on scapulars (darker backed than I recall color of Rocksh.)
- 6) wing coverts dark grey, broadly and crisply edged with greyish-white

- 7) underparts dull white, dark grey patches at sides of breast, diminishing and forming lightly mottled chest and streaked sides and flanks.
- 8) rump with black "Calidris" center stripe, very prominent when bird was in flight, stood out like a " sore thumb" in flying flock of Sanderlings
- 9) tail back with white outer tail feathers.

16. Voice: heard when flushed, a husky "skitch" call, somewhat intermediate between calls of Western Sandpiper and Dunlin,

17. Similar species (include how they are eliminated by your observations): none, in Louisiana - Rock Sandpiper in west, extremely long shot possibility as Vagrant. Limited past research indicates leg color may be useful separating species greenish-yellow in Rock, orangish-yellow in Purple; mantle color may or may not be useful - photos may indicate if white on inner primaries extending to shaft (apparently a distinguishing feature?) of outer webs

18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?): yes. myself - will attach to record prior to Committee circulation (if they came out at all?)

19. Previous experience with this species: none - familiar with sibling species, Rock Sandpiper from California

20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification
a) at time of observation; none

b) after observation:

21. This description written from: _____ notes made during observation; _____ notes made after observation; memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter: Donna L. Dittmann

24. Date and time of writing this account:

20 December 1988

10 AM

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

89-42 B

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: Purple Sandpiper
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): 1 ad. in winter plumage
3. Locality: Louisiana: SW part of LA Parish: Cameron, East Jetty
4. Date(s) when seen: 28 February 1989
5. Times of day when seen: ~ 2:00 P.M.
6. Reporting observer and address: Stephan J. Schenk, 1048 West Twelfth Place, Tempe, AZ 85281
(March 1 - July 1 - Archibald Bie, Stuy Lake Place, Fla., Box 2057, 33852)
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird: None
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird: None
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Overcast with covered sun behind bird and when bird moved sun position behind observer
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss, 10X40, good
11. Distance to bird: ~ 15 m.
12. Duration of observation: 5 min.
13. Habitat (general and specific): Coastal - at waters edge on rock jetty
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification): Feeding at waters edge by probing & picking while moving over rocks surface. Bird then flew to another location on jetty when disturbed by approaching fishermen.
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): Bicolored bill (yellow at base and darker brown or black toward tip of slightly downed bill), partial white eye-ring against a dark grayish plumage, yellowish legs

16. Voice: _____

17. Similar species (include how they are eliminated by your observations): I can think of no similar species with the above stated field marks that would be in this habitat behaving in the stated manner.

18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?): No

19. Previous experience with this species: Seen frequently on rock jetties of South New Jersey during four years of winter expeditions when I resided in Philadelphia - 1982-1986.

20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification
a) at time of observation; Natl. Geo.

b) after observation: Natl. Geo, Peterson's West, Sauer's Guide to Texas Gulf Coast (to determine status of bird in this area)

21. This description written from: _____ notes made during observation; _____ notes made after observation; memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter: Stephen J. Schoel

24. Date and time of writing this account: 1 February 1989, 8:00 P.M.

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

89-42C

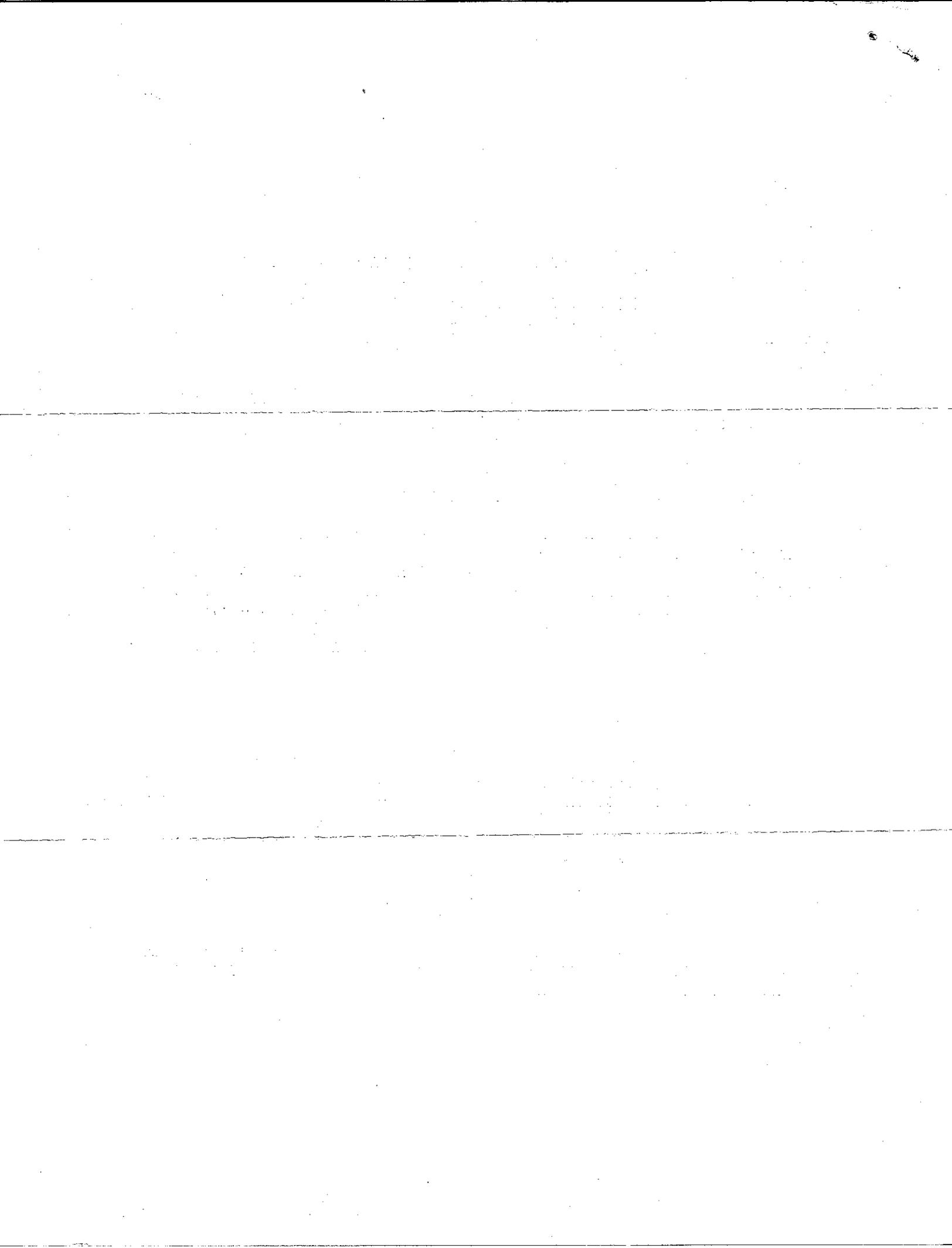
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1. Common and scientific name: Purple Sandpiper (Calidris maritima)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): Sex? Age? One (1) individual in winter plumage sighted
3. Locality: Louisiana: Calcasieu Pass jetties Parish: Cameron
Inward side of east jetty approx. 50' south of barrier fence at end of jetty road
4. Date(s) when seen: April 2, 1989
5. Times of day when seen: 3:15 pm
6. Reporting observer and address: Steve P. Gary, 107 Leggett Drive, Lafayette, LA 70508
Home phone #318/856-5607 Work phone #318/237-0410
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:
Charles Butterworth & Henry Miller
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird:
Tom Moorman, Anne Marie Moorman, Janice Nicholls
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Excellent lighting with partly cloudy skies. Individual was sighted in full sunlight
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swift 8.5X44, excellent condition
Charles Butterworth utilized a 20X77 Kowa spotting scope from approx. 70'
11. Distance to bird: 30-35' for all observers except Charles Butterworth
12. Duration of observation: 20 minutes
13. Habitat (general and specific): Rock jetty on east side of Calcasieu Pass

14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification): Individual sighted appeared to be foraging in between jetty rocks. Rested in full view on top of jetty rocks for approx. four (4) minutes.

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):

Length approx. 8-9", stout body, gray head, throat & breast, gray streaks on sides, white underbelly, yellow legs and feet, base of bill yellow with dark tip, white eye ring.



16. Voice: Not observed

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

Was not aware of similar species until noted in National Geographic - 2nd Ed. - of similarity to winter plumaged Rock Sandpiper (*Calidris ptilocnemis*). As indicated in referenced book, it can be eliminated by range.

18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?): None

19. Previous experience with this species: None

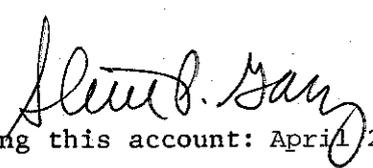
20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification

a) at time of observation; National Geographic Society Field Guide to the Birds of North America - Second Edition

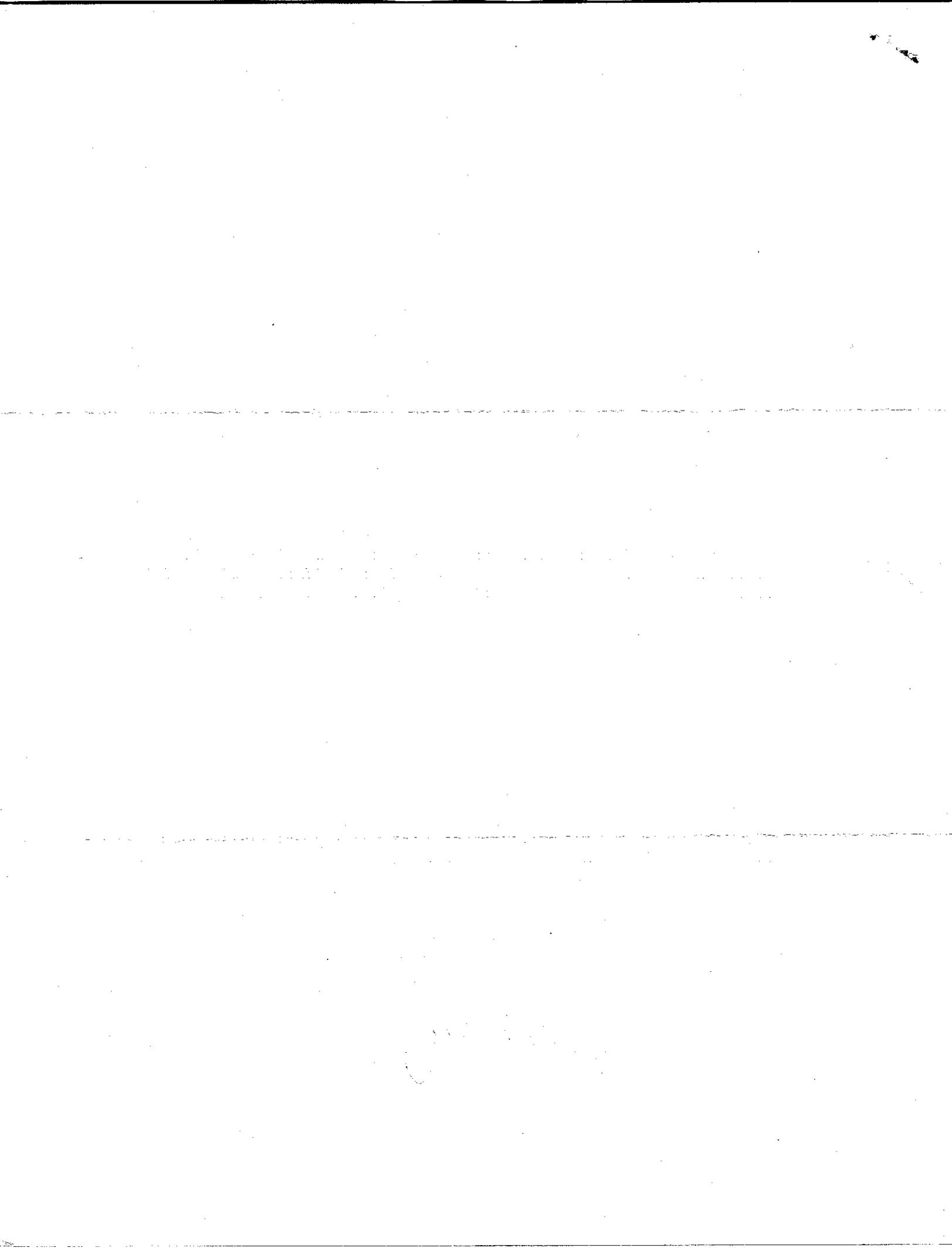
b) after observation: Lowery '74 Ed.

21. This description written from: X 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: 

24. Date and time of writing this account: April 2, 1989 @ 9:30 pm



LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

89-42D

REPORT FORM

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1. Common and scientific name: Purple Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): adult; in winter plumage
3. Locality: Louisiana: Cameron jetty Parish: Cameron
last side
4. Date(s) when seen: ~ March 30 / April 1st
5. Times of day when seen: 4:30 - 5:00pm late afternoon
6. Reporting observer and address: Janice Nicholls
6106 Vance Jackson #34, San Antonio, TX 78230
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:
Tom & Anne Marie Moorman, 3 other men w/ LA Ornithological Society - didn't get their names
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): overcast
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):
Nikon 10x-50 Binoculars
11. Distance to bird: 10-15 ft.
12. Duration of observation: ~ 20 minutes
13. Habitat (general and specific):
rock jetty
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification): Bird was seen feeding along the rock jetty
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):
long, sandpiper-like bill tipped with black, orange-brown legs, dark grey head and neck, streaked breast - mostly white, size of Ruddy Turnstone, dark eye, plump body, generally dark grey body fringed with lighter grey on wing coverts.

16. Voice: /

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

The rocky habitat limits the possibilities to Ruddy Turnstones (bird seen had longer bill, duller legs & no black bill), or sandpipers (bird seen was much darker, and definitely had a two-toed bill). Rock Sandpiper would be even more unusual in Louisiana.

18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?):

None taken

19. Previous experience with this species: on the Atlantic Coast (North Carolina).

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

a) at time of observation;

Nat. Geographic Society Field Guide to the Birds

b) after observation:

21. This description written from: _____ notes made during observation; _____ notes made after observation; memory.

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

23. Signature of reporter: Janie Nicholls

24. Date and time of writing this account: May 3, 1989



Purple Sandpiper

LA: Cameron Par.; W. jetty, 1/2 mi. S Calcasieu Pass

17 December 1988

photo: D. L. Dittmann

ZBRC # 89-42A





Purple Sandpiper

LA: Cameron Park, West Jetty, 1/2 mi. S Calcasieu Pass

17 December 1988

photo: D. L. Dittmann

LBRC # 89-42A

