

## 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: *Great Black-backed Gull (L. marinus)*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): *1 ad*
3. Locality: Louisiana: *Fourchon Beach* Parish: *Lafourche*
4. Date(s) when seen: *Feb. 26, 1989*
5. Times of day when seen: *11 am*
6. Reporting observer and address:  
*R. D. Purrington*
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:  
*Larry O'Mealie*
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird:  
*David Muhl*
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): *clear sky, 90° between bird & sun at best, at other times nearly in sun*
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):  
*10 X 50 binoculars, 30X Binoscope*
11. Distance to bird: *100-150 ft*
12. Duration of observation:
13. Habitat (general and specific):  
*gulf/beach*
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification):  
*resting in surf, sitting on gilling*
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):

*Very large, very dark back (almost black)  
pink legs, red spot on bill, immaculate  
head & neck. Larger (20%) than  
Merry Gulls*

Could have been same as 10/8/88. ~~Why~~

16. Voice:

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

Much too large, massive, dark, for Lesser Black Backed; legs pink.

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

no

19. Previous experience with this species:

@ previous SE La sightings

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

a) at time of observation;

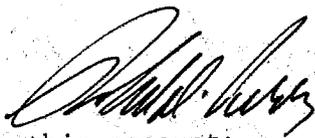
none

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:



24. Date and time of writing this account:

3/14/89

Louisiana Ornithological Society  
Bird Records Committee

Report Form

Name: Great Black-backed Gull      Larus marinus

Number of Individuals:      one; adult breeding

Location: Fourchon Beach, on pilings just west of road.

Date(s): February 26, 1989

Time(s) when seen:      Noon

Reporting Observer and Address: David P. Muth, 1110 Robert St., NOLA 70115

Other Observers Accompanying Reporter: R.D. Purrington, Larry O'Meallie.

Other Observers Who Independently Identified Bird:

Light Conditions:      clear and sunny, bird was s.e. during observation.

Optical Equipment Used:      Zeiss Dialyt 10x40; Bushnell spacemaster 25x

Distance(s) from Bird:      100-200 yards

Duration of Observation:      10 minutes

Habitat:      piling just offshore from gulf beach, and over gulf.

Behaviour:      loafing on piling; in flight later.

Description: An immaculate fresh adult gull in fresh plumage. Head, nape, underparts, rump and tail, white. Mantle and upper-wings nearly black with white trailing edge. Primaries black with some white near tips, but not viewed sufficiently to map pattern. Eye pale; orbital ring

color could not be determined. Legs pink. Bill yellow with large red spot in gonys. Bird appeared large and robust, but nothing nearby for direct comparison. The individual was tall, barrel-chested, big billed, block headed, wings proportionally very wide in flight.

Voice: Not heard.

Similar Species: Size and mantle color eliminate all other possibilities.

Photographs: O'Meallie. I'll try to get them sent in.

Previous Experience: About 15 individuals.

Aids: None.

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

Are You Positive of Your Identification? yes. If not, explain:

Signature of Reporter: *David P. Muck*

Date and Time of writing this account: 1:00 p.m. June 10, 1989.