

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
REPORT FORM

96-25

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 (*Larus marinus*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): 1 - 1st winter
3. Locality: Louisiana: Fourchon Beach Parish: Lafourche
4. Date(s) when seen: ① March 2, 1996 ② March 10, 1996
5. Times of day when seen: ① 11:00 ② ?
6. Reporting observer and address: Phillip Wallace, 4515 S. Prieur St.
N.O., LA 70125
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:
① Cecil Kersting ② Dan Purrington, Mac Myers, Gay Gomez
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): Good light, sun ⊥ line of sight
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Bushnell 22X
Spacemaster
11. Distance to bird: 30-50yds.
12. Duration of observation: 20 min.
13. Habitat (general and specific):
On beach at edge of Gulf of Mexico.
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification): Resting and flying
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):

Head - Light colored; unmarked with dark

Bill - very large, all dark Eyes - dark

Back - dark checkered pattern on fairly light background

Wing coverts - light; checkered
(folded wing)

Tertials - highly patterned with white and grey-brown

Wings - no pale windows, as in Herring Gull
(in flight)

Tail - white with black subterminal band
(in flight)

Legs - dull pinkish or flesh

Size - larger than adjacent Herring Gull

16. Voice: None

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

Herring eliminated by tail pattern and tertial pattern and absence of windows in wings.

Lesser black-backed eliminated by size, bill size, and lighter greater secondary coverts

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

Slides by Wallace attached

19. Previous experience with this species: I've seen several times in LA and on East Coast.

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

a) at time of observation; None

b) after observation: Grant

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:

Philip Wallace

24. Date and time of writing this account:

June 24, 1986
2:30 p.m.

30-50 yards

R. Wulley
C. Hervey

20
to m. h.

Bushnell scope

3/2/96

11:00

Great Black-backed Gull

Good light -
side light.

1st winter

Head - light colored; unmarked w/ dark.

Bill - very large, all dark

Tail - white, w/ black subterminal band.

Wings - flight - no pale windows.

Back - fairly light background; dark
checkered.

Wing Coverts (Solid) - light; checkered
wings - at rest; tertials highly patterned
Eye - dark w/ white and gray-brown

Legs - dull pinkish or flesh.

Larger than ^{adjacent} Herring

Slides 24-36

