

Louisiana Ornithological Society's

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Report Form

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of species on the Louisiana Bird Records Committee (LBRC) Review List. The LBRC recommends the use of this form or a similar format when submitting records for review (to assure that all pertinent information is accounted for). Attach additional pages as necessary. Please print or type. Attach xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

- 1. English and Scientific names: GREAT Black-backed Gull, Larus marinus
- 2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 1st summer
- 3. Locality: LOUISIANA: CAMERON
(parish)
BROSSARD BEACH
(specific locality)
- 4. Date(s) when observed: Apr 26, 1996
- 5. Time(s) of day when observed: Late evening - 6 PM?
- 6. Reporting observer and address: P CONOVER
501 Adrienne
Lafayette, LA 70506
- 7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s): DAVE PATTON, JUDITH O'NEALE
- 8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): SWC, DLD
- 9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Hot sun, BIRD TO EAST, SUN TO WEST
- 10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): KOWA 20x
- 11. Distance to bird(s): 50 yds → 200 yds.
- 12. Duration of observation: 20 minutes.
- 13. Habitat: Beach

14. **Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation** (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):

Typical gull sitting on the beach behaviour.

15. **Description** (include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen; include if possibly: total length/relative size compared to other familiar species, body bulk, shape, proportions, bill, eye, leg, and plumage characteristics. Stress features that separate it from similar species):

This bird was very similar to the bird I reported from April 14, 1996. It differed in being further along in molt. It could well be the same bird. A white-headed, white-bellied gull with distinctly black back feathering. Mostly white tail, white rump, pinkish legs, pale area at base of large, blunt-tipped blackish bill. Dark eye. Tail w/ indistinct dark tip. Wings molting primaries; 4 old outermost pairs remaining to be molted. otherwise wings very worn - but w/ fresh median coverts. One difference between this bird & the one mentioned above is the greater secondary coverts - on this bird they all seem worn - on that one, some of the outermost seem fresh.

16. **Voice:** NOT HEARD

17. **Similar species** (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

The black-choked back and whitish head, underparts, rump & base of tail eliminate Herring & Lesser Black-backed, and any other gull I can think of.

18. **Photographs or tape recordings obtained?** (by whom? attached?):

Video - two images from it reproduced here.

19. **Previous experience with this species:**

I have seen quite a few before, from downy juveniles to adults, & all age classes between.

20. **Identification aids:** (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation:

21. This description is written from: ___ notes made during the observation (___ notes attached?); ___ notes made after the observation (date: ___);
___ memory.

22. Are you positive of your identification if not, explain: *yes*

23. Signature of reporter:  July 15, 1996
(date) (time)



This side &
Reverse = Great Black-backed Gull
BROSSARD BEACH
APRIL 26, 1996

Apr: 126, 1996

