

## 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: Eurasian Wigeon (Anas penelope)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g. 2ad. in breeding plumage): 1 adult male
3. Locality: Louisiana: Orleans Parish: Bayou Sauvage NWR  
in a lagoon just north of I-10 between Hwy 11 and 1st exit west.
4. Date(s) when seen: 29 Dec. 1996 New Orleans CBC
5. Times of day when seen: 1:20 pm
6. Reporting observer and address:  
B. Mac. Myers III 105 McClung St. Pass Christian MS 39571-3329
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:  
R. Dan Purrington
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird:  
on another day - Phillip Wallace
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): a gray day, overcast but light good looking north
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10x40 Zeiss - excellent,  
22x60 Bushnell - good
11. Distance to bird: 100 yds, swam out to 250+ yds.
12. Duration of observation: 7 minutes
13. Habitat (general and specific):  
Brackish lagoon with many American Wigeon and other waterfowl
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc.; include and stress any habits used in identification):  
sitting in the water, swimming
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):  
An obvious wigeon. Head deep chestnut sides with creamy crown and forehead. Bill blue with black tip. Back grayish. Breast a peculiar sort of mauve color. Sides pure light to med. gray. Under tail/hind end black, with a light-whitish sort of crescent shaped patch between black hind end and gray flanks. I looked for and saw no evidence of hybrid origin.

16. Voice: not heard
17. Similar species (include how they are eliminated by your observations):  
distinctive, only real concern would be hybrid Eurasian x American. Saw no features of American such as green flecking on face/head or reddish on flanks.
18. Photographs (Was it photographed? By whom? Attached?):  
5 slides enclosed - tiny image!  
P. Wallace might have some.
19. Previous experience with this species:  
2
20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification  
a) at time of observation;  
b) after observation: Geo guide, also Madge/Brun and an article in Birding about hybrids
21. This description written from: X notes made during observation; \_\_\_\_\_ notes made after observation; \_\_\_\_\_ memory.
22. Are you positive of your identification? YES. If not, explain:
23. Signature of reporter: B. Mac. Mize III
24. Date and time of writing this account:

31 March 1997

7:45 pm

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: *Eurasian Wigeon* 1
- 2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 ♂
- 3. Locality: LOUISIANA: Orleans, Bayou Sauvage  
W. Refuge (parish)
- 4. Date(s) when observed: 29 Dec 1996  
(specific locality)
- 5. Time(s) of day when observed: 1:20
- 6. Reporting observer and address: B. Mac Myers 105 McClung St  
Pass Christian, MS 39571-3324
- 7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):  
Dan Purrington
- 8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
- 9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): good
- 10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10x46 Zeiss, 22x60 Bushnell
- 11. Distance to bird(s): 100-250 yds
- 12. Duration of observation: 8 minutes
- 13. Habitat: pond with many Coots, Am. Wigeon

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

Sitting on water, swimming

15. Description (include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen; include if possible: 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):

Approximate same size & shape of Am. Wigeon  
Deep Chestnut sides of head, creamy crown & forehead,  
sides of bill gray; black rear end; light patch  
between gray sides & black rear end. ~~BRAS~~  
an odd pinkish maura

16. Voice: N/A

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

unique

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

photos - Myers - ?

19. Previous experience with this species:

a few

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

none

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: B. Mac Myers

12/29/96

11:43 pm

(date)

(time)

96-68 C

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
REPORT FORM

1. **Common and scientific name:** Eurasian Wigeon (Anas penelope)

2. **Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage:**  
1 adult male

3. **Locality: State (Louisiana) Parish:** Orleans

**Exact Location:** South shore of Lake Pontchartrain at the intersection with Hwy 11

4. **Date(s) seen:** February 16, 1997

5. **Time(s) of day seen:** 9:30-9:45 am

6. **Reporting observer and address:** Phillip Wallace  
4515 S. Prieur St.  
New Orleans, LA 70125

7. **Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:** none

8. **Other observers who independently identified the bird:**  
Mac Myers, Dan Purrington - Discovered on N.O. CBC;  
Nancy Newfield apparently saw after CBC.

9. **Light conditions:** Excellent light; bright sun behind observer; clear day.

10. **Optical equipment:** Bushnell Spacemaster 22x

11. **Distance to bird:** 300-500 yds

12. **Duration of observation:** 15 min.

13. **Habitat (general and specific):** On Lake Pontchartrain

14. **Behavior:** Flying in; swimming on Lake with a female wigeon (American or Eurasian). Four wigeon flew in together - the Eurasian male, an American male, and two female wigeon. Each male paired off with a female and swam apart from the other pair.

**15. Description:**

**Size** - Approximately the same size as the American Wigeon it flew in with.

**Head** - Reddish head with bright yellow crown.

**Underparts** - Gray flanks with pinkish breast. Black hindquarters, with white patch on flanks between ~~proximal~~ anterior gray and ~~distal~~ black. → posterior

**Wings (folded)** - Wings were dark with buff edging hanging over from the scapulars.

**Bill** - Bluish bill with black nail.

-----  
**Female** The female accompanying the male Eurasian appeared to be an American Wigeon. There was a strong contrast between the grayish head and the more reddish breast and flanks. I did not see the wing linings and the axillaries, so I'm uncomfortable in determining which species she was.

**16. Voice:** None

**17. Similar species and how they were eliminated:**

No similar species to eliminate. There did not seem to be any evidence that the bird was a hybrid. The head pattern was pure European, as were the flanks. I'm not sure if the buff fringes to the scapulars were an illusion, but they were in my notes. (Actually, my notes said tertials, but it was scapulars I thought I saw with the fringe.)

**18. Photographs?** None from me. Myers apparently took some at the original sighting.

**19. Previous experience with this species:** I've seen once in Louisiana (Grand Isle), and I've seen them a couple of times in Bolinas Lagoon in California.

**20. Aids used in identification:**

a) at time of observation: NGS guide

b) after observation: Burns and Madge, Waterfowl

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

**22. Are you positive of your identification?**   yes  

**23. Signature of reporter:** *Chiff Wallace*

**24. Date and time of writing this account:** February 25, 1997  
8:30 pm

not up by flock of  
AWL; one other  
AWL pair.

Light excellent  
Bright Sun behind observer  
Clear day.  
300-500 yds.

Eurasian Wigeon  
2/16/97

9:30-9:45 Scope.

Lake Pontchartrain

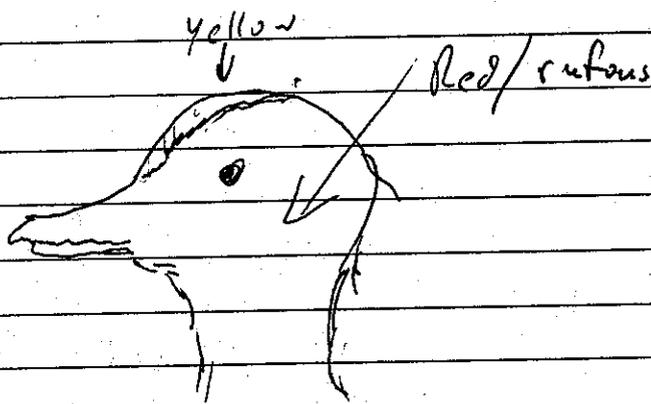
S. End of Hwy 11 Bridge

Reddish head; bright yellow crown;  
bluish bill w/ black nail; Gray flanks;  
pinkish breast.

Paired with ♀ wigeon (sp?)

black hindquarters; White on flanks  
before dark tail hindquarters.

Wings dark w/ buff edging to tertials?



♀ appears to be AWL; strong contrast  
between head color <sup>(crown)</sup> & breast/flanks -  
more reddish.

Swimming in inlet in SE corner.

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
REPORT FORM

1. COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME:

Eurasian Wigeon (Anas penelope)

2. AGE, SEX, NUMBER, GENERAL PLUMAGE(S):

One male

3. LOCALITY:

Irish Bayou, LA

PARISH:

Orleans

4. DATE AND TIME OF OBSERVATION:

29 December 1996, 1:20 p.m.

5. REPORTING OBSERVER AND ADDRESS:

Robert D. Purrington, 4700 Bissonet Dr., Metairie, LA 70003

6. OTHER OBSERVERS ACCOMPANYING REPORTER WHO IDENTIFIED THE BIRD(S):

Buford Mac Myers

7. OTHER OBSERVERS WHO INDEPENDENTLY IDENTIFIED THE BIRD(S):

None

8. LIGHT CONDITIONS (RELATIVE TO OBSERVER):

Cloudy, with high ceiling; relatively bright. Sun (obscured) behind observers

9. OPTICAL EQUIPMENT:

30 power, 70 mm telescope and 10x42 binoculars

10. DISTANCE TO BIRD:

about 120 yards initially, out to about 250 yards

11. DURATION OF OBSERVATION:

about five minutes

12. HABITAT:

on large pond, approx. 100 acres in extent, adjacent to Lake Pontchartrain

13. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF OBSERVATION; BEHAVIOR:

The bird was found swimming among scattered flocks of up to 500 Gadwall, Wigeon, and other puddle ducks, with a few scaup present also.

14. DESCRIPTION OF BIRD:

Puddle duck with clear pearl gray sides, black rump with white patch anterior to it, brick-red head, slightly lighter or buffier on crown, neck and breast a buffy yellow-orange. Obviously a male wigeon, the distinguishing feature being the all red head.

15. VOCALIZATION(S), IF ANY:

None

**16. SIMILAR SPECIES AND HOW ELIMINATED:**

American Wigeon would have bald pate, bluish mask on face; Redhead would have darker red head, white sides, no black rump or white flank patch.

**17. RESOURCES USED IN IDENTIFICATION (FIELD GUIDES, ETC.):**

None

**18. PHOTOGRAPHY, IF ANY (BY WHOM):**

Myers took several photographs, but at a distance of perhaps 200 yards

**19. PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH SPECIES:**

Seen twice in Louisiana, including first modern Louisiana record by this observer and N. Nelkin. Seen once in Florida, many seen in Europe.

**20. SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER AND DATE:**

12/30/96

