

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:**
Glaucous Gull - *Larus hyperboreus*
2. **Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage** (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): One ~~first~~^{first or} second winter bird.
3. **Locality: LOUISIANA:** Jefferson
(parish)
Grand Isle St. Park ~ 1/2 mile east of fishing pier along the beach
(specific locality)
4. **Date(s) when observed:**
3/26/97
5. **Time(s) of day when observed:**
11:45 a.m.
6. **Reporting observer and address:**
Richard S. Bello
2559 Hwy. 308
Labadieville, LA 70372
7. **Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):**
Gary Worthington
8. **Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):**
John Conover informed me that someone associated with Wildlife and Fisheries on Grand Terre Island identified the bird a day or two later.
9. **Light conditions** (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Sun almost directly overhead
10. **Optical equipment** (type, power, condition):
9x35 B+L binocs, 8x25 Nikon binocs, Bushnell scope (all in good condition)
11. **Distance to bird(s):**
~75 feet (until it flew across the pass to the beach next to Ft. Livingston).
12. **Duration of observation:** G. Isle
About one minute on beach, then another 10 minutes or so after it flew to beach on opposite side of pass.
13. **Habitat:**
At edge of sandy beach along gulf pass between end of Grand Isle and Fort Livingston.

14. **Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation** (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):
standing at water's edge, apparently resting. Several imm. Herring Gulls nearby. We were walking back toward fishing pier when we noticed this small flock, at first glossing over the bird (dismissing it as a large egret). Once we noticed it was a large gull, it stayed put for about one minute before flying directly away from us toward Ft. Livingston.
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):
A bit larger than nearby Herring Gulls, with light pinkish legs, heavy bill light in coloration with blackish tip. Plumage strongly white throughout, including all the way to wing tips, which were seen clearly as bird took flight.
Flew close to surface of water, with labored deep wing beats and heavy-bodied appearance.
(The perception of each observer differed as to eye color, which makes us a bit uncertain about whether this was a first or second year bird.)
16. **Voice:**
No vocalizations noticed
17. **Similar species** (include how they were eliminated by your observation):
Bigger and much whiter than any plumage of Herring Gull or Thayer's Gull, including white all the way to primary tips.
18. **Photographs or tape recordings obtained?** (by whom? attached?):
19. **Previous experience with this species:**
None.
20. **Identification aids:** (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):
a. at time of observation: None
b. after observation: Field Guide to Birds of North America (2nd ed.), Peterson's Eastern Birds (4th ed.)
21. **This description is written from:** ___ notes made during the observation (___ notes attached?); ☒ notes made after the observation (date: 3/26); ___ memory.
22. **Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain:**
Yes.
23. **Signature of reporter:** Richard S. Bell 3/30/97 7:58 p.m.
(date) (time)