

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
Report Form

Mail to: Secretary, LBRC, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, LSU, BR, LA  
70803-3216

1. English and Scientific names: Crested Caracara (Caracara plancus)
2. # of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage: 1 - seen twice (or 2 seen once each)
3. Locality: Louisiana: Cameron Parish  
specific locality: Lacassine NWR
4. Date(s) when observed: 29 December, 1998
5. Time(s) of day when observed: once in AM + once in PM
6. Reporting observer and address: Karen Fay  
732 Wordsworth Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s): Joe Kleiman  
Marty Guidry
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):  
overcast
10. Optical equipment: Bausch & Lomb elites 8x42
11. Distance to bird(s): pretty far
12. Duration of observation: < 1 minute each time
13. Habitat: open marshy fields

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14. Behavior of bird/circumstances of observation: AM - saw fly. h, over field  
PM - chased a greater white fronted goose

15 Description (only what was seen: total length/relative size compared to familiar species, body bulk, shape, proportions, bill, eye, leg and plumage characteristics. Stress features that separate it from similar species.): Large raptor-type bird with white patches on the ends of the wings, white behind the head & on the rump & tail. Otherwise dark brown w/ black cap.

16. Voice: N/A

17 Similar species (how they were eliminated by your observation): N/A

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

19. Previous experience with this species: seen many times in TX & several times in LA.

20. Identification aids: a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: Natl Geo Birds of N.A.

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

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: Yes

23. Signature of reporter: Kar 7 1/1/79 5:20pm  
(date) (time)

## REPORT FORM

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

1. English and scientific name: CRESTED CARACARA (Polyborus plancus)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2ad. in breeding plumage): /
3. Locality: LOUISIANA CAMERON  
state parish  
NORTHEAST CORNER OF LACASSINE POOL, LACASSINE NWR  
specific locality
4. Date(s) when seen: DECEMBER 29, 1998
5. Times of day when seen: ~ 8:15 AM & 3:15 PM
6. Reporting observer and address: JOSEPH KLEIMAN  
15913 MALVERN HILL  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70817
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird:  
KAREN FAY & MARTY GUIDRY
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird: A CARACARA HAS BEEN REPORTED IN THIS AREA ON LA BIRD
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): BIRD IN GOOD LIGHT IN P.M., LIGHT FOG IN A.M.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):  
ZEISS 10X40 AM & PM, GOOD
11. Distance to bird:  
~ 300 YDS A.M., 0.5 MI. P.M.
12. Duration of observation:  
~ 1 MINUTE EACH TIME
13. Habitat:  
MARSH
14. Behavior (flying, feeding, resting, etc. - include and stress any habits used in identification): IN MORNING BIRD WAS SEEN FLYING TO THE WEST, POSSIBLY CHASING A GOOSE WHICH, IN ANY CASE, IT DIDN'T CATCH. IT FLAPPED WITH THE TYPICAL CROOKED WING FLIGHT. IN THE AFTERNOON, THE BIRD WAS PERCHED AND FLEW DOWN AS IF IT REALIZED WE SAW IT.

AC11-82

15. Description (Include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen). Include if possible: total length or relative size compared to other species present or familiar species; body bulk; shape, bill, eye, leg and plumage characteristics. Stress features that separate it from similar species: LARGE RAPTOR - LONG DARK WINGS WITH LARGE WHITE PATCHES AT ENDS - LARGE HEADED, LARGE BILLED, CROWN DARK, WHITE CHEEKED - BILL TYPICAL RAPTOR-TYPE HOOKED BILL - DARK BODY - LONG TAIL, WHITE WITH LARGE BLACK BAND AT END - THESE MARKS WERE SEEN IN FLIGHT, BOTH AM & PM IN AFTERNOON, BIRD LOOKED DISTINCTIVE EVEN AT GREAT DISTANCE LARGE FLAT-HEADED, BIG-BILLED ~~HEAD~~ PROFILE QUITE NOTICEABLE
16. Voice:  
NOT HEARD
17. Similar species (include how they are eliminated by your observations):  
NOTHING LOOKS LIKE THIS IN THE U.S.
18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained (By whom? Attached?):  
NONE
19. Previous experience with this species:  
EXTENSIVE
20. Aids: List books, illustrations, birders, etc. used in identification:  
a) at time of observation: NONE  
b) after observation: NONE
21. This description written from: \_\_\_\_\_ notes made during observation; \_\_\_\_\_ notes made after observation (date: \_\_\_\_\_); ✓ memory.
22. Are you positive of your identification? YES. If not, explain:
23. Signature of reporter: Joseph P. Kleiman
24. Date and time of writing this account:  
11/1/99, 8:00 P.M.