

Louisiana Ornithological Society's

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Rare Bird 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 ensure that all information involving an observation is accounted for). Attach additional pages as necessary. Please print or type. Attach fieldnotes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for 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, age, sex, general plumage (e. g., "2 adult males in alternate <breeding> plumage"): 1, ~ 1 YEAR OLD
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: CAMERON  
(parish)  
RUTHERFORD BEACH  
(specific locality)
4. Date(s) when observed: 7 MAY 2001
5. Time(s) of day when observed: ~ 4:00 PM
6. Reporting observer and address:  
JOSEPH P. KLEIMAN  
15913 MALVERN HILL  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70817
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):  
JASON WECKSTEIN, STAN ZAMEK
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):  
NONE THAT I KNOW OF
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): GOOD LIGHT, BIRD WAS OPPOSITE US ON SHORE
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):  
LEICA TELEVID 30X 9 ZEISS 10X40, GOOD
11. Distance to bird(s):  
EXCELLENT  
50-75 YARDS
12. Duration of observation:  
~ 20 MINUTES

13. Habitat: BEACH ON GULF OF MEXICO

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

BIRD RESTING

15. Description (include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen; if possible, give details on 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. Attach additional pages as necessary):

LARGE GULL (LARGER THAN NEARBY HERRING GULLS) WITH LARGE BLACK BILL, BASE STARTING TO LIGHTEN UP (BILL AGAIN WAS MUCH MORE MASSIVE THAN HERRING GULL) - PINK LEGS - WHITISH HEAD AND UNDERPARTS - BLACK & WHITE CHECKERED WINGS AND MANTLE CONTRASTING WITH WHITE HEAD - WHEN BIRD FLEW, WE SAW IT HAD A WORN WHITE TAIL WITH SMALL AMOUNT OF BLACK AT TIPS OF FEATHERS  
SOME

16. Voice: NOT ~~RE~~ DISTINGUISHED

17. Similar species (and how are they eliminated by your description?):  
\* PLUMAGE SIZE ELIMINATES HERRING GULL, LEG COLOR, SIZE ELIMINATE LESSER BL-BACKED GULL & KEMP GULL \*

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

7 SLIDES ENCLOSED - JASON ALSO GOT PICTURES

19. Previous experience with this species:

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

a. at time of observation:

NONE

b. after observation:

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

22. Are you positive of your identification (if not, then explain)?:

YES

23. Signature of reporter:

Joseph P. Klerman 5/14/01  
(date)

\* WESTERN GULL IS SMALLER & 1ST WINTER BIRD DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THIS



13. Habitat: Gulf Coastal Beachs

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

15. Description (include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen; if possible, give details on 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. Attach additional pages as necessary):

1st summer, large gull with Large Blackish Bill, Bill very heavy, Gull about 1/3+ larger than nearby Herring Gulls, Head light in coloration, mantle "checkered" black and white, Rump white, Tips of tail feathers checkered black and white

16. Voice: No heard

17. Similar species (and how are they eliminated by your description?):  
Lesser Black-backed Gull - has similar plumage patterns at this age... however this bird was significantly larger and larger billed than nearby Herring Gulls which eliminates lesser

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):  
I took photos... and will turn them in once developed.

19. Previous experience with this species: I've seen thousands in all plumages in Michigan, Ontario and Newfoundland, I've also seen vagrants in Louisiana and Minnesota.

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

a. at time of observation: none used

b. after observation: none used

21. This description is written from:      notes made during the observation; X notes made after the observation (date: 5/7/01);      memory.

22. Are you positive of your identification (if not, then explain)? Yes.

23. Signature of reporter: J. Weber 6/4/01  
(date)