

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 information involving an observation is accounted for). **Attach additional pages as necessary.** Please print or type. Attach photocopy of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include complete series of 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. (If you use this form as a computer template; please submit on archival quality = 100% cotton paper.)

1. English and Scientific names: Leach's Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage: Two
3. Locality: Gulf of Mexico, 51 mi. SE (heading 121) off South Pass at 28° 36' 04.1 N, 88° 25' 07.1"W
4. Date(s) when observed: 29 May 2002
5. Time(s) of day when observed: spotted from boat at slick laid to attract storm-petrels
6. Reporting observer and address: Donna L. Dittmann and Steven W. Cardiff
7. **Other observers** accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Mac Myers,
David Muth, Curt Sorrells and Dan Purrington were also present, not we're sure who also identified these
two birds.
8. **Other observers** who *independently identified* the bird(s): _____
9. Light conditions: excellent
10. Optical equipment: Leica 10 X 42 binoculars
11. Distance to bird(s): as close as 50 ft.
- 12.) Duration of observation: combined for both birds, perhaps 5-7 minutes
- 13.) Habitat: Gulf of Mexico, blue water
- 14.) Behavior of bird/circumstances of observation: DLD spotted each bird as it fed over the chum
slick. It was foraging with Wilson's Storm-petrels. The Leach's flew around the slick and picked pieces of
chum from the surface.
- 15). Description: Large storm-petrels. Immediately separated from Wilson's by larger size and
especially longer fore-wing. First detected in the group of storm-petrels by shape difference, which is how
we also picked out Band-rumped. Distinguished from Band-rumped primarily by longer and well-forked tail.
Other distinctions from BRSP that were observed include somewhat browner underparts, especially on
the abdomen/belly, and rump with bisection of dark initiating from the "tail end." Flight style also drew

attention to these birds as the Leach's picked their wings up higher than BRSP, _____

16.) Voice: not heard _____

17.) Similar species and how they were eliminated: As discussed above. _____

18.) Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): None _____

19.) Previous experience with this species: Several seen off California, and a few now from Louisiana (including specimens). _____

21.) Identification aids:

a. at time of observation: None. _____

b. after observation: None. _____

22.) This description is written from: notes made during the observation; _____ notes made (immediately) after the observation (date: _____); or X memory. Please attach copy of field notes.

23.) Are you positive of your identification if not, explain: Yes. _____

24.) Signature of reporter: Thomas G. Hoffman 30 May 2002

Signature of reporter: _____

(date)

(time)