

LOUISIANA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
REPORT FORM

1. Species: Northern/Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway*
2. Number: one subadult/immature
3. Locality: Louisiana; Cameron Parish; Hackberry Ridge (the school board section?), west of Johnson's Bayou, south of the highway
4. Date: 30 April 2004
5. Time: appx. 14:20 cdt
6. Reporting observer: B. Mac. Myers III; 5660 Ada Pl.--rear apt.; New Orleans, LA 70124-2811
7. Accompanying observers: none
8. Independent observers: none
9. Light conditions: not noted, but okay
10. Optics: 10x42 Eagle, excellent condition
11. Distance: 60-65 yds.
12. Duration: a few seconds; the bird flew overhead and then continued out of sight to the east
13. Habitat: coastal chenier of hackberry, etc.; but the bird was flying overhead
14. Behavior: the bird flew almost directly overhead and continued east along the chenier: as it passed overhead, I ran out of the woods so I could watch it fly away
15. Unmistakable, very large raptor. Long wings, long tail, long neck and head. The throat, neck and breast were buffy/off-white. The belly was dark brown. The undertail coverts were buffy/off-white. The tail was mostly light with a medium width dark terminal band. There were bold white patches near the tips of the wings. All of this description is of the ventral surface. When I got out of the woods and watched it fly away, I really didn't add anything to my earlier overhead observation except to confirm general impressions.
16. Voice: not heard

17. Similar species: unique and unmistakable among North American birds

18. Photographs: none obtained

19. Experience: I've seen a fair number in LA, and some in Texas, etc.

20. Aids: none at time; I consulted some later trying to figure out the age.

21. Description written mostly from notes made later after returning home, but I did scribble very brief notes in the field.

22. Yes, I am positive of the identification

23. Signature: *B. Mac. Myers III*

24. Date: 18 August 2004, 15:13 cdt