

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: American Flamingo, *Phoenicopterus ruber*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 individual, sex unknown. After second year bird, showing worn adult pink plumage.
3. Parish:
Terrebone
4. Specific Locality:
Whiskey Island
5. Date(s) when observed: 6/4/2024
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 0900 for about 30 minutes and again at 1500 for about 2 hours
7. Reporting observer: Connor Gable
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Theodore Zenzal, Emma Counce, Rob Dobbs
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Sunny, bird was viewed from the north looking south
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Binoculars, Zeiss SFL 10x40, new.
Photos taken with Canon Powershot sx60 HS.
12. Distance to bird(s): 50 meters
13. Duration of observation: 2 hours
14. Habitat: Bayside island tidal mudflats
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Bird was feeding and resting on the mudflats. Originally seen with head tucked in and identified by long pink legs with backwards-bending knee. After a few minutes, the bird untucked its head and revealed its unmistakable bill, head, and neck.
16. Description (include only what was actually seen, not what "should" have been seen; include if possible: 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):

Large-bodied bird, larger than any surrounding species, with light pink plumage, faded black flight feathers visible in flight only. Extremely long S-shaped neck and dark pink legs. Heavy bill with distinct downward bend.

17. Voice:

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

Most similar species possible on Whiskey Island would be Roseate Spoonbill. This was eliminated by virtue of the overall much larger body size, much longer and pinker legs, and when untucked, the extremely long neck of the flamingo with a downward-bending bill. No records of other species of flamingo exist in North America, to my knowledge, and therefore do not need to be considered.

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

By Connor Gable, attached.

20. Previous experience with this species: I have one prior firsthand observation of American Flamingo in Pennsylvania in 2023. Two wild individuals appeared there last summer and were well-documented.

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

22. Identification aids used when?

None used

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

Yes, unmistakable bird.

24. Date report completed:

6/10/2024

25. May the LBRC have permission to display in whole or in part this report and accompanying photos on the LOS-LBRC website and LBRC Facebook page?

Yes

26. If yes, may we include your name with the report?

Yes









