

# 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 pertinent information is accounted for. Attach additional pages or files as necessary. Please print or type for hard copy. For electronic copy, be sure to save this file to your computer before entering text. Attach field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed (if hard copy), mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216, or e-mail electronic copy as an attachment to Paul Edward Conover at <[zoiseaux@lusfiber.net](mailto:zoiseaux@lusfiber.net)> .

1. English and Scientific names: Audubon's Shearwater *Puffinus lherminieri*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1
3. Parish: Plaquemines  
Specific Locality: Carnival Breeze Cruise 8/25/18 Leg 3/30, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, US start: 26.106, -88.799 (heading Northwest towards Galveston)
4. Date(s) when observed: August 25, 2018
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 7:38am
6. Reporting observer and address: James F. Holmes (Jim), 4109 U Street, Sacramento, CA 95817
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): none
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): None
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Partly cloudy, sun behind the ship
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Kowa TSN-883 (Angled), brand new
11. Distance to bird(s): not documented in my notes
12. Duration of observation: not documented in my notes

13. Habitat: Open seas,  
83F, partly cloudy, light wind SE  
seas 1-2 feet, no whitecaps

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

It was sitting on the water in front of the ship feeding. It would fly a few feet and then feed, fly a few feet and then feed, repeat. Once it was flushed by the ship, its flight was classic "little" shearwater with rapid flap, flap, flap glide (low over the water without high banks/arcs)

15. 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, *or for species that are known to hybridize frequently, stress features that help eliminate possible hybrids*):

Black (head, back, dorsum of wings, dorsal aspect of tail, trailing edge of underwing) and white (throat, chest, abdomen and much of underwing) shearwater flying just over the water. Undertail coverts dark.

16. Voice: none

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

Manx Shearwater similarly plumaged/flight but has white undertail coverts. In addition, this species (Manx) is significantly less likely than Audubon's Shearwaters at this time of year in the Gulf of Mexico.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): This was the first of the Audubon's Shearwaters that I was able to photograph. Photographs are in my eBird report: <https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S48080192>

19. Previous experience with this species: I have seen this species on multiple occasions in more expected locations (Florida, North Carolina) and most recently August 20, 2018 (5 individuals) in Louisiana (see those reports). Numerous (30) individuals were seen on August 20th (five) and 25th (25) in Louisiana waters.

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

a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: None

21. This description is written from:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	See eBird list for dictated notes at time of observation
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

eBird list: <https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S48080192> There were two individuals on this eBird checklist but the first bird is submitted in another report.

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

23. Date: October 5, 2018

Time: 5:02pm

24. 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

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If yes, may we include your name with the report? Yes \_\_\_\_\_