

# 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 Parish  
Specific Locality: eBird list: Carnival Cruise Glory 8.12.19 Leg 3 of 14 (26.809, - 88.272)  
Based on the starting coordinates of this list (at 7:00am) and that the ship covered 7.41 miles over the 20 minutes of this list, the bird would have been approximately 1.85 miles southeast of the start coordinates or approximately 163.7 miles southeast of Southwest Pass.
  
4. Date(s) when observed: August 12, 2019
  
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 7:05am
  
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

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Kowa TSN-883 (Angled), very good condition

11. Distance to bird(s): distance as close as 300 meters as it flew across the front of the ship going east

12. Duration of observation: did not document time

13. Habitat: Habitat: Open seas, partly cloudy, seas <2 feet, no Whitecaps, Beaufort 2 blue water, went through a sargassum line, The Audubon's Shearwater was seen just before the sargassum line.

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

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*):

This was a small black (including head, back, dorsum of wings, dorsal aspect of tail, trailing edge of underwing) and white (throat, chest, abdomen and much of underwing) shearwater. Dark undertail coverts were seen well.

16. Voice: none

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

Manx Shearwater similarly plumaged/flight but has white undertail coverts. Undertail coverts seen well on this bird to rule out Manx.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): none. Did not attempt.

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 2018 (numerous individuals) on a similar cruise ship in the Gulf of Mexico. I have now seen this species multiple times in Louisiana (initial September 13, 1997 but also August 20 and 25, 2018).

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	

See eBird lists: <https://ebird.org/checklist/S58988009>

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

23. Date: November 15, 2019

Time: 1:01pm

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

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