

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> .

1. English and Scientific names: **Audubon's Shearwater**

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
Highest one time count was 7 individuals.

3. Parish: **Plaquemines**

Specific Locality: **28'14.622, 88'57.225**

4. Date(s) when observed: **9 September**

5. Time(s) of day when observed: **ca 9:10-10:00 a.m.**

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Paul Edward Conover
City: Lafayette
State: LA

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): **all other members of the pelagic crew (Hathaway, Lima, Muth, Myers, Remsen)**

8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s):

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): **Sun at our backs for much of sighting time.**

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): **Vortex 12x, Nikon D3500 w/ 200 mm lens.**

11. Distance to bird(s): **often very close, perhaps 20-40 yards**

12. Duration of observation: **about 45 minutes of observation of all birds present,**

with much spent on each species present.

13. Habitat: **“Deep blue water, mostly featureless. 5000' deep, water temp about 93 degrees, approx. 6" to 1' seas” per Muth on eBird list**

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): **Birds mostly resting on water, occasionally flushing before boat or at random.**

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*):

Small black and white shearwaters smaller than Cory's and Great shearwaters seen within the same binocular view. Dark blackish-gray above, white below. White of lower face encroaching above eye and onto lores. Smudgy gray on sides of neck invading from dark dorsum. Wings white underneath with grayish trailing edge, and broad gray V on leading edge of wing pointed posteriorly. Dark undertail coverts specifically looked for and seen on all individuals both in flight and on the water.

16. Voice:

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): **Manx by dark undertail coverts, pattern of face. Barolo's by underwing pattern.**

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): **By many, mine attached here.**

19. Previous experience with this species: **Pretty broad on prior pelagics.**

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

23. Date: **15 Sept 2023**

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**



