

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: [Black-legged Kittiwake](#), *Rissa tridactyla*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
[1 in first winter plumage](#)
3. Parish: [Cameron](#)
Specific Locality: [Rutherford Beach](#)
4. Date(s) when observed:
[17 February 2024](#)
5. Time(s) of day when observed:

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Paul Conover
City: Lafayette
State: LA

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):
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):

[Light was fine, overcast](#)

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):

[Vortex 12s, Nikon Fieldscope 20-60 zoom, Nikon D3500 w/200 mm lens, Samsung S22 cam-phone](#)

11. Distance to bird(s): [As close as 15 yards](#)
12. Duration of observation: [about 20 min](#)
13. Habitat: [beach/tidal pool inland from rock breakwater](#)
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation: [Preening, resting, took off with](#)

flock, flew normally (didn't appear injured or sick)

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*):

Stocky gull intermediate in size between Laughing and Bonaparte's, Immature bird, white head with double neck collar and a ghost of a third band connecting dark eyes over crown. Underparts white, mantle medium gray, on folded wing, broad black band, white visible in wing coverts, dark primary tips. Open wing in flight with broad black "M" (or "W" ...) across wings dorsally, interrupted by gray back, with white inner and black outer primaries. Notched white tail with short dark terminal band. Bill clouded greenish-yellow with indistinct dark tip, thin dark line along cutting edge, etc. Legs and feet black,

16. Voice: Didn't hear.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): None very similar. Morphology, leg color, pattern separate it from Bonaparte's, not close to other extralimital possibilities.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, included.

19. Previous experience with this species: I've seen huge numbers on nesting grounds, and a handful in Louisiana.

22. Are you positive of your identification? Yes.

23. Date: 24 Feb 2024

Time:











