

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 Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*)

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 individual, unknown sex, unknown age, dark blue/gray head and neck and breast with dark brown/black rear and back with white spots and short tail.

3. Parish: St. Charles

Specific Locality: Luling / Lakewood East neighborhood; 29.903672, -90.347012

4. Date(s) when observed: 4/10/2024

5. Time(s) of day when observed: about 4:00pm

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Paul Stevens
City: Luling
State: Louisiana

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

Felicia Stevens, Emma Stevens

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):

cloud cover, under porch, even lighting with some shade

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

11. Distance to bird(s): 12 inches

12. Duration of observation: 1 hour

13. Habitat:

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

The bird was noticed on the porch of the home. This day there was heavy rains and thunderstorms. The bird was positioned under a table on the porch. The bird appeared to be sheltering. The bird walked from under the table and pecked at insects crawling on the ground under the porch. When the bird noticed the observers, it slowly made its way back under the table. The bird did not appear to be stressed or injured but did stay under the table for most of the time the observers were near. The bird was not seen flying. Identification was made by photo comparison with images online and confirmation with Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries.

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*):

The bird was small, maybe 4 inches in length and maybe 3 inches tall. Larger than a wren but not quite as large as a robin. The bird was oval shaped with a short tail. The bird had long legs in comparison to the body size. The head and breast of the bird were a dark gray/blue color while the back portion of the bird was black/dark brown with white spots. The eyes were red, and it had a black pointed bill.

16. Voice: The bird did not make any noises while being observed.

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

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): see image below:



species: none

(illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):
 online search and photo comparison with online examples.
https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black_Rail/id

a. at time of observation: online search and photo comparison

b. after observation: online search and photo comparison

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	4/10/2024
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? Yes

23. Date: 4/10/2024

Time: 4:00 pm

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 _____