

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: Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
2 adults, unsexed, undetermined plumage
3. Parish: St. Tammany
Specific Locality: Causeway Bridge, west side (south bound) – mile marker 16.4
4. Date(s) when observed: 20 August 2017
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 12:00
6. Reporting observer and address: James W. Beck, 5077 Highland Dr. Marrero, LA 70072
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): n/a
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): Warren Mendenhall
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Sun was high overhead, mostly sunny, birds were flying/diving at eyelevel.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Vortex 8x42
11. Distance to bird(s): ca. 15-20 yards
12. Duration of observation: ca. 20 seconds
13. Habitat: Lake Pontchartrain (open water)

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): 2 adults, flying together; one bird making a dive into the lake, the other flying under the bridge to (presumably) perch where numerous individuals have been continuing for multiple years now. I was stopped in traffic on the Causeway – allowing me more observation time than usual.

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*): Body shape most reminiscent to that of Northern Gannet, *Morus bassanus*, but slightly smaller. Long, pointed wings with a streamline body shape and pointed tail. Smaller than Brown Pelican, *Pelecanus occidentalis* with more pointed winged and “arrow-shaped” head and longer necks. Clean, white bellies, chest and undertail coverts. Tail, back, heads and upperwings were dark brown. Underwings white bordered with brown.

16. Voice: n/a

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Northern Gannet, *Morus bassanus*, is slightly larger, adults mostly white on head, neck, back and tail. Gannet also only has black flight feathers on the outer tips of the wings. Underwing pattern varies in that the leading edge is brown with the trailing edge being whitish. Smaller than Brown Pelican, *Pelecanus occidentalis* with more pointed and “arrow-shaped” head and longer necks.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): n/a

19. Previous experience with this species: I have seen this species in Louisiana on a few previous occasions: Three individuals on Calcasieu Lake 19 October 2013, 3 individuals on Lake Pontchartrain 22 October 2016 and 34 individuals on Lake Pontchartrain 18 September 2016.

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

a. at time of observation: n/a

b. after observation: n/a

21. This description is written from:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | notes made during the observation. | Are notes attached? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | notes made after the observation. | At what date? | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | memory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | study of images |

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

23. Date: 21 August 2017

Time: 1419

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 _____