

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: **Blue-throated Mountain-gem** (*Lampornis clemenciae*)

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One female, adult.

3. Parish: **East Baton Rouge Parish**

Specific Locality: **Old Goodwood eBird Hotspot, 7113 Joliet Ave, 70806**

4. Date(s) when observed: **First seen December 19, 2021. Then sightings: December 23, 26, 27, 29, 30, continuously January 1 to current date February 20 (except for February 3, 12).**

5. Time(s) of day when observed: **First observed at about 10:30AM, then for next week only in early evening after sunset. Since then observed irregularly throughout day.**

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer:	Gary Byerly
City:	Baton Rouge
State:	Louisiana

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): **Maud Walsh for initial sighting; Ben Byerly on December 23; Dan Lane on December 29; Van Remsen on December 30. Complete list in appendix A.**

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): **First observations in poor heavy overcast sky. For next week only in low light after sunset. Then in a variety of conditions, many very favorable.**

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): **Panasonic Lumix DC-FZ80 (60x zoom) camera; Vortex 10x50 Viper HD Binoculars.**

11. Distance to bird(s): **Five meters.**

12. Duration of observation: **Initially about ten minutes. Then for past two months.**

13. Habitat: **Urban yard, large lot with mature oak and pine. Nectar feeders in place, though initially did not go to these. Late blooming fall-winter flowers present (salvia, shrimp, cigar) and abundant camellia (40 trees in yard). Preferred spots seem to be "enclosed", initially a patio, then a small side-yard). Similar to small canyon native habitat?**

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Short hovering flights from one branch to another, then a short flight to a nearby tree. Then stationary for ten minutes. Went “missing” for several days until it began a week of only coming in after sunset to a nectar feeder on patio. We surmised it may have been feeding widely on neighborhood flowers, then feeding in our yard just prior to roosting. After first week it became a regular at two nectar feeders in our small side yard. It would often perch deep in a bramble of azalea and could be seen insect hawking. Would chase other birds in the bramble and at the two nectar feeders. After two weeks it would also regularly use a stone grinding bowl (bird bath), aggressively rubbing its shoulders into the stone. Unlike our other winter hummingbirds, the BTMG would frequently go missing for hours, sometimes even days and Dan Lane suggested it was due to the “trap-line” feeding strategy of this species.

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*): Large size (much bigger than other wintering hummingbirds we have), and similar in size to our warblers OCWA and PIWA (about 5 inches in length). Also, much chunkier than other hummingbirds. Initially seems to be an overall dark hummingbird, though in best light appears to be gray-green above and gray below, dark covert and tail, with white tail corners, prominent white eyebrow. Bill relatively short (for hummingbird) and straight, dark in color. In December had full set of wing primaries, though P10 on right wing was broken at the end. Molting began after the first week of January (first noted by Donna Dittmann) and continues through February 20 (new P1-5, missing P6-7, old P8-10) – see Appendix C for full list.

16. Voice: Irregular, loud, short “seep” often heard just before it approaches nectar feeder, occasionally in chasing other birds. On one occasion, after using playback, it became agitated, then for nearly a minute did frequent (one per second) “seep” calls. Loudness comparable to call notes of titmouse or cardinal. Several recordings posted to eBird.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Compared initially to Rivoli’s HU but seen in poor light where it looked much darker overall. Brightening up the original photos, and then subsequent photos in better lighting revealed features unlike RIHU (stronger white eyebrow, much darker covert and tail).

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): I made a large number of photographs and recordings, the best posted to eBird. I can either send the checklist numbers or some of the better photos. Numerous other visitors have also made photos and recordings. All lists are currently “hidden” but will be made public once the bird leaves Baton Rouge. See Appendix B for full list of my eBird checklists.

19. Previous experience with this species: I attempted to find a BTMG in Big Bend NP in Fall 2021, but only found a Rivoli’s. Of course I now wonder if the Big Bend bird was misidentified! I have seen Rivoli’s on several occasions in SE Arizona. This was my first encounter with BTMG.

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

a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: Sibley Birds and Nat Geo birds of North America (for misidentification as Rivoli's); subsequently shared photos with Remsen, Lane, Conover, Dittmann, and Cardiff and properly identified bird.

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	eBird lists
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input type="checkbox"/>	study of images – several hundred images and recordings		

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

23. Date: 2-20-22

Time: 9AM

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, once the bird has left Baton Rouge.

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

Appendices A, B, and C follow.

Appendix A. Those who have seen the bird in our yard:

Gary R Byerly

Maud Walsh

Ben Byerly

Erin Miller

James V Remsen

Daniel Lane

David Vander Pluym

Lauren Harter

Michele McLindon

Nick Ramsey

Garrett S Rhyne

Robb Brumfield

James Boutte

Philip C Stouffer

Anna Hiller

Andre E Moncrieff

Esme Rosen

daniel patterson

Erik Johnson

CeCe

Katie Barnes

Lawrence Datnoff

Nicholas A Mason

Rutledge Samantha

Eamon Corbett

Shakya

Marybeth Lima

Lynn Hathaway

Rob Dobbs

Mark Meunier

Joan Garvey

David Muth

Diego Cueva

Nancy Newfield <

Charles Lyon

Melissa Weaver

William Matthews

James W. Beck

Linda Kingsland

Seth Nehrbass

Tom Trenchard <t

Aylett Lipford

Phillip DiSalvo

Cathy DiSalvo

Malise Prieto

John Dillon

Phil Whitlow

Jane Patterson

Katherine Gividen

Alec Cowles

Charlotte Chehotsky

Appendix B. Ebird lists with notes, photos, and recordings:

Date	LocID	SubID
20-Feb-22	L12754485	S103187022
19-Feb-22	L12754485	S103062843
18-Feb-22	L12754485	S102849438
17-Feb-22	L12754485	S102818658
16-Feb-22	L12754485	S102750195
15-Feb-22	L12754485	S102683434
14-Feb-22	L12754485	S102628676
13-Feb-22	L12754485	S102565305
11-Feb-22	L12754485	S102443028
10-Feb-22	L12754485	S102397202
9-Feb-22	L12754485	S102333693
8-Feb-22	L12754485	S102297947
7-Feb-22	L12754485	S102205156
6-Feb-22	L12754485	S102141586
5-Feb-22	L12754485	S102067490
4-Feb-22	L12754485	S102005902
2-Feb-22	L12754485	S101914522
1-Feb-22	L12754485	S101838974
31-Jan-22	L12754485	S101778907
30-Jan-22	L12754485	S101723436
29-Jan-22	L12754485	S101656437
28-Jan-22	L12754485	S101586906
27-Jan-22	L12754485	S101527811
26-Jan-22	L12754485	S101475151
25-Jan-22	L12754485	S101446202
24-Jan-22	L12754485	S101349734
23-Jan-22	L12754485	S101316493
22-Jan-22	L12754485	S101209965
21-Jan-22	L12754485	S101150071
21-Jan-22	L12754485	S101138145
20-Jan-22	L12754485	S101079558
18-Jan-22	L12754485	S101007995
17-Jan-22	L12754485	S100958654
16-Jan-22	L12754485	S100873312
16-Jan-22	L12754485	S100840651
15-Jan-22	L12754485	S100775469
14-Jan-22	L12754485	S100715092
13-Jan-22	L12754485	S100676900

12-Jan-22	L12754485	S100598308
11-Jan-22	L12754485	S100559442
10-Jan-22	L12754485	S100489503
9-Jan-22	L12754485	S100438177
8-Jan-22	L12754485	S100339802
7-Jan-22	L12754485	S100312805
6-Jan-22	L12754485	S100218917
5-Jan-22	L12754485	S100194200
4-Jan-22	L12754485	S100128680
3-Jan-22	L12754485	S100059655
3-Jan-22	L12754485	S100016461
2-Jan-22	L12754485	S100010072
1-Jan-22	L12754485	S99885684
1-Jan-22	L12754485	S99825769
30-Dec-21	L12754485	S99719806
30-Dec-21	L12754485	S99683186
29-Dec-21	L12754485	S99677423
27-Dec-21	L12754485	S99545256
26-Dec-21	L12754485	S99442873
23-Dec-21	L12754485	S99339897
19-Dec-21	L12754485	S99112891

Appendix C. Apparent molting dates:

Date	Left			Right		
	Old	Missing	New	Old	Missing	New
12/19/21	All P			All P		
12/20/21						
12/21/21						
12/22/21						
12/23/21						
12/24/21						
12/25/21						
12/26/21						
12/27/21						
12/28/21						
12/29/21	All P			All P		
12/30/21					P10 broken	
12/31/21						
1/1/22					P10 broken	
1/2/22						
1/3/22						
1/4/22						
1/5/22						
1/6/22						
1/7/22						
1/8/22						
1/9/22	P1 gone					
1/10/22						
1/11/22						
1/12/22	P1,2 gone					
1/13/22						
1/14/22						
1/15/22						
1/16/22						
1/17/22						
1/18/22						
1/19/22						
1/20/22	P5-10	P3,4	P1,2	P5-10	P3,4	P1,2
1/21/22						
1/22/22						
1/23/22	P5-10	P3,4		P5-10	P3,4	

1/24/22					
1/25/22	P5-10	P3,4			
1/26/22					
1/27/22					
1/28/22				P5-10	P3,4
1/29/22					
1/30/22					
1/31/22					
2/1/22					
2/2/22					
2/3/22					
2/4/22	P6-10		P1,2,3		
2/5/22	P6-10		P1,2,3		
2/6/22					
2/7/22					
2/8/22			P1,2,3		P1,2,3
2/9/22	P7-10		P1,2,3,4		
2/10/22					
2/11/22	P7-10		P1,2,3,4		
2/12/22					
2/13/22	P7-10		P1,2,3,4	P7-10	P1,2,3,4
2/14/22					
2/15/22					
2/16/22				P7-10	P1,2,3,4
2/17/22					
2/18/22					
2/19/22	P8-10		P1-5		
2/20/22				P8-10	P1-5