

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: Burrowing Owl, (*Athene cunicularia*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One individual.
3. Parish: Lafourche
Specific Locality: East Fourchon Beach, Port Fourchon, LA. Approximately
29.1504749, -90.1123502
4. Date(s) when observed: Feb 11, 2015.
5. Time(s) of day when observed: Approximately 10:00 AM.
6. Reporting observer and address: Natalie Waters, Thibodaux, LA.
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Landon Jones.
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Previously found in the same location by Dan O'Malley, Erik Johnson, Richard DeMay, Delaina LeBlanc, Paul Chadwick, Matt Conn and Soodong Lee.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Direct sunlight on open beach.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 20X60 Swarovski scope, new condition.
11. Distance to bird(s): ~50 meters.
12. Duration of observation: 5-10 minutes before it flew.
13. Habitat: Coastal sand dune, it was found in the middle of the beach roosting inside a partially buried tire.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): The owl was roosting in a partially buried tire when we discovered it. As we began to pass through the area it flushed and flew ~50 ft. and landed on the ground.

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 brown owl with white spotting on back, long legs, slight barred breast, white eyebrow, flattened head appearance, large yellow eyes.

16. Voice: I did not hear it vocalize.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): The owl had longer legs and shorter wings than a Short-eared Owl, it also lacked a facial disc appearance and it was found in a 'burrow' in the sand.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): No.

19. Previous experience with this species: No previous sightings personally.

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification): The bird was previously found in the same location as Dan O'Malley, Erik Johnson, Richard DeMay, Delaina LeBlanc, Paul Chadwick, Matt Conn and Soodong Lee.

a. at time of observation: Landon Jones also confirmed the identification at the time of observation.

b. after observation: The Sibley Guide to Birds, Second Edition.

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	
X	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	2/11/15
X	memory		
<input type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

23. Date: 10 June, 2015

Time: 9:30 PM

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? _____

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

