

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: [Burrowing Owl](#) (*Athene cunicularia*)

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
[One, unknown age/sex.](#)

3. Parish: [Cameron](#)

Specific Locality: [Lionel Deroven Road, 6.6 mi WSW of Bell City](#)

4. Date(s) when observed: [18 January 2025](#)

5. Time(s) of day when observed: [4:40 pm](#)

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

| |
|---|
| Reporting observer: Erik I. Johnson |
| City: Sunset |
| State: LA |

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): [None, I was birding solo.](#)

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): [Seems like most active LA birders have gone to see this bird.](#)

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): [Clear, 10 mph winds. Perpendicular late afternoon light as I looked south toward the bird.](#)

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): [Vortex Razor 10x42 ED binoculars, Nikon D7200 with Sigma 150-600 mm f/4.5-6.3 lens, both in good condition.](#)

11. Distance to bird(s): About 40 feet away.

12. Duration of observation: About 1 minute.

13. Habitat: Pasture. A herd of cows were nearby.

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

Hunkered in a tractor tire that was discarded 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*):

I only saw the top of the bird's head as it was looking to my left and away. It was nicely rounded and medium brown with white spots.

16. Voice: Not heard.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): I suppose another owl could superficially look like this, but there were no ear tufts (not Short-eared Owl), and it was too brown (not enough tan/white) for Barn Owl. Very much a stakeout bird with limited places to pull off, and another birder/photographer was quietly waiting in a nearby pull-off to photograph the bird from their car, so I didn't want to disturb.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photo by me, attached.

19. Previous experience with this species: Seen several times in Louisiana and out west.

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

a. at time of observation: None.

b. after observation: None.

21. This description is written from:

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

study of images

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: [Yes](#).

23. Date: [22 February 2025](#)

Time: [9:55 am](#)

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](#)

