

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: Glaucous Gull, *Larus hyperboreus*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One 1st year
3. Parish: Cameron
Specific Locality: Holly Beach
4. Date(s) when observed: 21 May 2017
5. Time(s) of day when observed: Afternoon, from 1:30 to 5:30
6. Reporting observer and address: Paul Conover, Lafayette
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): none
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): none known
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):
Overcast and even, more than adequate
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss 10s, Nikon Fieldscope, Samsung S4 and Nikon D3300 cameras.
11. Distance to bird(s): down to about 20 yards.
12. Duration of observation: Viewing time probably 20-30 minutes
13. Habitat: Beach
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Resting, preening, flying when I approached too near. Flight was strong despite worn wings and tail.
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*):

A large and stocky "white" gull with pink legs, pink bill with blackish subterminal mark, and dark eyes.

Body overall white with a few faint beige smudges on mantle and on breast. There may have been some Pale gray mantle feathers.



Much heavier-bodied than the Herring Gulls it was seen near, with a low-slung belly and seemingly wider-set legs.



Head mainly white, with medium-dark brown eyes. Bill more or less parallel-sided without strong gonydeal angle or bulbous tip. Wide but not clearly demarcated blackish subterminal band covering most of the area between the nostrils and bill tip. Dark eye and faded bill tip indicate first year bird.



Wings and tail with white flight feathers. Tips of the flight feathers were badly worn and reduced to worn shafts.



16. Voice:

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Combination of size, shape, soft part colors point away from all but Glaucous. Nothing to indicate hybrid.

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

19. Previous experience with this species: I've probably seen an average of one a year over the past few years.

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

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation:

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

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

23. Date: Report begun in May, finished on 2 July 2017

