

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: [Glaucous Gull \(*Larus hyperboreus*\)](#)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
[1 in juvenile plumage](#)
3. Parish: [St. Bernard](#)
Specific Locality: [Chandeleur Island, north island \(30.0358,-88.8622\)](#)
4. Date(s) when observed: [17 May 2019](#)
5. Time(s) of day when observed: [8:50 am](#)
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): [Don Norman](#)
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s): [none](#)
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): [Clear skies, looking into mid-morning sun](#)
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): [Vortex Razor spotting scope, digi-scoped with Samsung S6 smartphone](#)
11. Distance to bird(s): [As close as about 75 m](#)

12. Duration of observation: About 10 minutes

13. Habitat: Open sandy beach, intertidal zone

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

Mainly loafing with mix of terns, pelicans, and a few gulls. Mostly walked away from us lazily as we got closer, not appearing terribly wary. We didn't see the bird fly off, as we were distracted with a variety of other shorebirds, focusing on Red Knot color band resighting.

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*):

Copied verbatim from eBird report completed next day: "Large all-white gull (including white wing-tips), approximately similar in bulk and size as Herring Gull, but only really seen in direct comparison against Brown Pelican, Royal Tern, and Laughing Gull (it was notably larger than the latter two). Bleached out and worn greater coverts. Body with very fine pale brown vermiculations only visible with careful views. Bubble-gum pink legs and a pink bill with 1/4 of the tip distinctly demarkated in black. Eyes dark."

16. Voice: not heard

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

No indication that this was a bleached or leucistic Herring Gull – the combination of bill color and pattern, bright pink legs, beedy eye look, and general bulk/shape were all consistent with Glaucous Gull. Much too large, wrong bill pattern and leg color, and too bulky and blocky for Iceland Gull.

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

19. Previous experience with this species: I see one or two almost annually in coastal Louisiana.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation. Are notes attached?	Brief notes in notebook translated to eBird report next day.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation. At what date?	Next day.
<input type="checkbox"/>	memory	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images	

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

23. Date: **10 February 2020**

Time: **9:10 pm**

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**



