

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 first or second winter](#)

3. Parish: [Acadia](#)

Specific Locality: [west of Crowley](#)

4. Date(s) when observed: [27 Jan 2024](#)

5. Time(s) of day when observed: [morning](#)

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Paul E. Conover
City:
State:

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): [Claire and Tom Hanson](#)

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): [Both sunny and overcast, but sun behind me and shade was not obstructive.](#)

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): [Nikon Fieldscope 20-60x, Samsung S22 phone camera](#)

11. Distance to bird(s): [200 yards-300 yards](#)

12. Duration of observation: [about 1 hour](#)

13. Habitat: [Open muddy field where gulls were resting](#)

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): [Sitting, preening. At one point harassed by a Herring Gull and ran away, another time harassed by a 1st winter Lesser Black-backed Gull and ran away but then raised its wings and head, opened its bill fully, and](#)

charged at LBBG, which then gave way.

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, whitish gull with dark eye, pink bill with well-demarcated black tip, vivid pink legs.

Larger than all gulls in the field, long, low-slung, very hefty. Back appeared to have glacial gray scapulars and mantle and there were almost no markings dorsally, except for perhaps a few very faint dots, which made me think 2nd winter. However, the eye appeared dark.

16. Voice: I was unable to hear it given the distance and the number of birds present, but it did bugle out something at one point.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): No other species has the combination of body and soft part color. The bird was textbook Glaucous in size, color, and soft part color so hybrid can be ruled out.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Video and photos by me attached.

19. Previous experience with this species: I have seen several, all in Louisiana.

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

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation:

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

23. Date: 28 Jan 2024





