

# 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](mailto:zoiseaux@lusfiber.net)> .

1. English and Scientific names: Golden Eagle
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 individual, juvenile bird
3. Parish:  
Specific Locality: Just south of Hwy 14 and just east of intersection of Hwy 99
4. Date(s) when observed: 6 Dec., 2016
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 1130+/-
6. Reporting observer and address: Danny Dobbs 817 Brentwood Blvd, Lafayette, LA
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): none
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): cloudy but not excessively dark.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski 8x30 binoculars – good condition
11. Distance to bird(s): 200 -300 meters +/-
12. Duration of observation: 45 seconds +/-
13. Habitat: flying over wet plowed field

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): bird was flying in a relatively straight line the entire time that I observed it. I was driving east on Hwy 14 and saw bird flying east to west off to my right front. Road was clear so stopped and watched several seconds thru binoculars observing distinct white areas at base of primaries and overall brown bird. I noticed some white in tail area but decided to stop and try for picture (which failed); looking back I wish I had just continued studying bird with binoculars, especially for location of white in tail. Large bird, obviously an eagle.

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*): Large bulky bird obviously larger than large hawk which were fairly numerous that day. All brown with exception of distinct white patches at base of primaries and some white in the tail area (cant be sure where as based on white in wings I tried to park and photograph which was unsuccessful). Also looked for and did not see any whitish areas on the body of the bird or on the wings except the white patches. Could not see legs, eye or detail about the bill except that it was heavy.

16. Voice: did not hear

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Immature bald eagle lacks white patches at base of primaries. Also no other white areas on wings or body of bird. All dark redtail hawk but this bird was obviously much larger.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): no, attempted but not successful

19. Previous experience with this species: one juvenile seen flying directly overhead several years ago at Laccasine, and several observations in multiple western states

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification): primarily National Geographic Field Guide and past experience

a. at time of observation: same as above.

b. after observation: same as above plus referred to Sibley guide

21. This description is written from:

notes made during the observation. Are notes attached?

	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
x	memory		
	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: almost certain based on distinct white areas at base of primaries and lack of any white over brown bird in general. My only missing point of ID is the tail, I saw white but did not study in an effort to park and photo. Thus I cannot say for sure where white in tail was located.

23. Date: 6 December, 2016

Time: 1130+/-

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

If yes, may we include your name with the report? \_\_yes\_\_\_\_\_