

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: **Great Shearwater**
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): **5**
3. Parish: **Plaquemines**

Specific Locality: **Leg began at 28°15'59.6"N 88°33'50.3"W according to eBird report**

4. Date(s) when observed: **9 September**

5. Time(s) of day when observed: **ca 2:10 p.m.**

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Paul Edward Conover
City: Lafayette
State: LA

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): **all other members of the pelagic crew (Hathaway, Lima, Muth, Myers, Remsen)**

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): **Fine. We circled around to get good light.**

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): **Vortex 12x, Nikon D3500 w/ 200 mm lens.**

11. Distance to bird(s): **Pretty close, maybe 30 yards.**

12. Duration of observation: **Several minutes.**

13. Habitat: **Blue water**

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): **I spotted these off starboard as we were speeding on our return trip. The whiteness of their breasts was conspicuous against the blue water. We slowed and circled, then drifted up to them in good light.**

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*):

Two somewhat chunky shearwaters with dark caps (one with dark cap and paler rear of crown, one with dark continuing down back of neck). Caps distinctly set off from clean white of sides of face, neck, and breast. Backs darkish gray/gray-brown, darker wingtips and tail. Sides of necks smudgy and mottled by darker color intruding down sides of neck and onto breast. Bills black.

16. Voice:

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): **AUSH by size, COSH by dark caps, dark bills. Suite of fieldmarks definitive for Great.**

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

19. Previous experience with this species: **Some previously, quite a bit that day.**

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

23. Date: **28Sept 2023**

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**



