

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: Harris's Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1, adult (presumably same individual seen on two different dates)
3. Parish: Jefferson Davis
Specific Locality: Welsh Landfill, between north and south entrances, Landfill Rd., 3.3 mi NW of Welsh
4. Date(s) when observed: (#1) 28 November 2017 & (#2) 6 January 2018
5. Time(s) of day when observed: (#1) 3:20 pm & (#2) 2:15 pm
6. Reporting observer and address: Erik I. Johnson, 102 Goodwood Cir., Lafayette, LA 70508
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): (#1) Allen Correll & (#2) Kimberly Lanka, Marybeth Lima
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Apparently first located by Ivan Fruge on ~26 November 2017 (per Facebook post), and resighted by many over the subsequent couple months
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): (#1) overcast, even lighting, (#2) sunny, early afternoon sun to SSW; looking SW to WNW to view the bird – so not perfect lighting, but good
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10 x 42 Swarovski EL binoculars & Swarovski 25-50x scope, digi-bin & digi-scope with Samsung S6 smartphone
11. Distance to bird(s): (#1) as close as 200 feet & (#2) about 500 feet (measured in Google Earth)
12. Duration of observation: (#1) ~15 minutes & (#2) ~5 minutes

13. Habitat: side of landfill with short posts for perches and a row of ~8 pine trees, otherwise open and surrounded by ag lands

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

(#1) foraging – first seen on utility pole then flew toward landfill and harassed a Turkey Vulture, kleptoparasitizing its meal (something red and meaty looking), then brought it to pine trees where it consumed it from a low branch

(#2) perching on short posts on side of landfill, flying between them; looked like it was eating something from atop a post as we left

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*):

Unstreaked, uniformly dark chocolate brown all over, but with notable rufous shoulder patches, and two white bands on tail – one broad basal half of tail, then a broad blackish bar, then a narrow white terminal tip. Vent white. Legs yellow, tarsi unfeathered, cere yellow, iris dark. Seen much more clearly the first time, but no indication that these features were different on the bird seen the second time.

16. Voice: Not heard

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): All dark Red-tailed, White-tailed, Ferruginous, Broad-winged, Swainson's, etc. have a very different tail and vent pattern. The combination of that pattern with the rufous shoulder patches is diagnostic.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, photographs both times (#1: digi-scope, #2: digi-bin)

19. Previous experience with this species: First time seen in Louisiana – seen in Texas a few times.

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

a. at time of observation: None.

b. after observation: Sibley Guide to North American Birds

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

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

23. Date: 20 January 2018

Time: 1:45 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





