

## LBRC Report Form

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
3. Parish:  
Cameron
4. Specific Locality:  
29.75786° N, 92.93147° W. Grand Chenier Highway just east of St. Martine de Porres Cemetery
5. Date(s) when observed: 12.13.2024
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 9:33 am
7. Reporting observer: Kathy Rhodes
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):  
None
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):  
None
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Overcast but bright. Strong winds with gusts.
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon Coolpix B600 camera and Nikon Prostaff 3s Binoculars
12. Distance to bird(s): 100 yards when flushed from utility pole, approx. 125 feet when spotted low in small tree
13. Duration of observation: 4 minutes estimated
14. Habitat: Along coastal highway with ponds on one side. There was a mowed lawn with a raised trailer on the other side surrounded by trees.
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): I was driving west on Grand Chenier Highway looking for the Harris's Hawk and White Tailed Kites. I had collected all the GPS locations of all the sightings in the last few weeks. No eBird report had been reported for 12 days. After Frank Garacci's spot and just before Paul Conover's spot, I saw a dark "hawk" on a pole and slowed a little. The bird flushed flying Northeast across the road in front of me.

16. 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):

As the bird flushed I could see a dark body and white tail. No white anywhere else. I knew it was the Harris Hawk but figured nobody would believe me. I drove up to see if I could find it then turned the car around and backtracked east. Driving slowing I very soon noticed a large black spot in the middle of a bright green bushy tree maybe 10 feet above the ground. I zoomed in and took a photo. I wasn't sure yet it was the Harris Hawk. I pulled in the driveway and took more photos. I felt it was the bird as it was dark with a large yellow bill and yellow legs and feet. I could see rusty color on shoulders. I pulled out and turned back west a little to get a better angle. I finally took a photo with the white tail showing. I was so excited. The bird did fly off again and I did not see it again. I notified 3 other people who came looking for it after I left. No one else could relocate it.

17. Voice: None heard

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):  
Other Hawks but none with the same color markings.

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):  
Me, Kathy Rhodes

20. Previous experience with this species: Saw the bird once in Rio Grand Valley TX in 2023

21. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):  
Photos from previous eBird checklists and photos seen on Merlin and eBird.

22. Identification aids used when?  
None used

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

24. Date report completed:  
12.16.2024

25. 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

26. If yes, may we include your name with the report?  
Yes







