

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: Iceland Gull, *Larus glaucoides*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
One 1st year "Kumlien's"
3. Locality: Jefferson Davis Parish
Specific Locality: near parish Jefferson Davis Parish Landfill, Welsh
4. Date(s) when observed: 01/29/2014
5. Time(s) of day when observed: ca. 3:45-4 p.m.
6. Reporting observer and address: Paul Conover, Lafayette, LA
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):
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): Sunny, bird to N, sun from SW.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon Fieldscope 20-60X, Zeiss 10s, Samsung S4 phone camera
11. Distance to bird(s): at closest perhaps 100 yards
12. Duration of observation: about 30 minutes
13. Habitat: open fields along frontage road within ½ mile of the dump, with hundreds of resting gulls.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation: moving around within flock, disappeared in gull swirl a few times, bathed, preened.
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):

A small, long-winged whitish gull with pale wings, pinkish legs, and a mostly dark bill.

The bird was about the size of a petite Herring Gull, and was very slender in proportions. Wings extended well beyond the tail tip, the head was small and rounded, and the bill was fine and fairly small.

Upperparts pale gray, perhaps with some replaced scaps or mantle feathers. Wing coverts whitish with some small dusky internal markings. Very weak secondary bar, Tertials very slightly grayer than rest of folded wing,

also with slightly dusker internal mottling. Primaries with whitish ground color, pale mocha-brown markings on outer webs stopping subterminally, primary tips white. Underwing linings very pale brownish-gray, primaries below white.

Tail appeared to be solid bar of pale brownish gray, perhaps darker than internal markings of primaries and secondaries. The solid bar may have actually been a web of mottling.

Legs rich pale pink, eyes dark, bill appeared all dark but on closer view dusky pink at base.

16. Voice: Not noted

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

Size, color, pattern, and bill color all point to Iceland. At the time, I debated over pale Thayer's vs. Kumlien's, but with the merger of the two under Iceland, that's academic. However, in hindsight, I would now say Kumlien's.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photos by me. I also shot video, but that was lost in a computer crash. I found the attached photos by surprise in a separate location.

19. Previous experience with this species: Some, with Thayer's and Kumlien's, all in Louisiana.

20. This description is written from memory and photos. I had written off this sighting because I thought the images were lost. I recall the basics of the day: school cancelled because of 24 hour freeze, gulls on the ice, etc. I don't recall if I saw the bird before or after this date.

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

22. Date: 02/11/2018