

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 as necessary. Please print or type. Attach xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed, mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216.

1. English and Scientific names: Limpkin <i>Aramus guarauna</i>
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 2 (presumed 1 male & 1 female)
3. Locality: LOUISIANA Parish: Terrebonne Specific locality: N. Hollywood Road, Houma, LA (29.6116,-90.7212)
4. Date(s) when observed: Thursday, February 8, 2018
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 9:20 to 10:20AM
6. Reporting observer and address: Tom Trenchard, 104 Penn Mill Lakes Blvd, Covington, LA 70435
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also <i>identified</i> the bird(s): Nancy L Newfield
8. Other observers who <i>independently identified</i> the bird(s): Numerous observers identified and reported these birds on several previous dates.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Light conditions were excellent; partly cloudy day.
10. Optics: Bushnell Trophy XLT 10x42 binocular; Sony DSC-H50 15-30x zoom camera
11. Distance to bird(s): about 15 yards, close to ground.
12. Duration of observation: about an hour – birds didn't move much the whole time.
13. Habitat: within tall marsh grasses/reeds near edge of pond.
14. Behavior of bird/circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Birds seemed to be at rest the entire time; others have reported seeing evidence of nest-building at other times. Numerous apple snail shells present around the entire area, which is no surprise since apple snails have been reported to be a favorite food of this species.
15. Description (include only what was actually seen, <i>not what "should" have been seen</i> ; 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): Long-billed, long-legged wader about the size of an ibis or medium-sized egret or heron, with downcurved orange-based, dark-tipped bill (similar shape to an ibis, but not as curved), body color brown with white specks. Male and female similarly plumaged.
16. Voice: loud squealing/rattling call somewhat reminiscent of some gulls.
17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Bird only superficially could be confused with an immature white ibis, but very easily separable in the field. Behavior not the same; bill shape not as decurved as White Ibis; bill and body color readily differs. Might be considered looking "rail-ish." Species is unique.
18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photos by Tom Trenchard with this report.
19. Previous experience with this species: None.
20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification): iBird; Whatbird.com, online.
a. at time of observation: none at observation time (not needed).
b. after observation: see above – for general reference, but not actually needed.
21. This description is written from: <input type="checkbox"/> notes made during the observation (<input type="checkbox"/> notes attached?) <input type="checkbox"/> notes made after the observation (date: _____); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> memory.
22. Are you positive of your identification if not, explain: 100% certain
23. Signature of reporter: <i>Tom Trenchard</i> Date/Time: 2/10/18 8:30PM
24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, may we include your name with the report? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No





