

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:

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):

3. Parish: St. John the Baptist

Specific Locality: South of Shell Bank Bayou in Maurepas WMA

4. Date(s) when observed: May 18, 2020

5. Time(s) of day when observed: Approximately 1800 hours

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Sean M. Duffy, Sr.
City: Kenner
State: Louisiana

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):

Sean M. Duffy, Jr. verified via photographs by Joelle Finley

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Sean M. Duffy, Jr. after review of Audubon Field Guide

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Bird was along the shoreline and in the direct sunlight facing west along the bank.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Binoculars at 12x20 and iPhone camera, but we able to get surprisingly close to the bird and took multiple photos. Do believe on a future trip we can pinpoint exact location via gps.

11. Distance to bird(s): Single bird, limpkin and we were less than 10 feet away in kayaks.

12. Duration of observation: Up to five minutes, truly until we had taken multiple pictures and decided to let him/her be.

13. Habitat: Swamp habitat appeared to be hunting food along the shoreline in the vegetation along the bank.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): I am an amateur birder at best it did seem to me that the bird was too calm to be that close to people. It was very relaxed, only flew back a few feet and relocated when we floated in less than 5 feet away, did not startle and calmly flew to next perch.

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*): Hard to note based on limited familiarity but will be happy to share all photos for examination by those better qualified.

16. Voice: No sounds were emitted.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Not sure of any, I had only seen one other limpkin near Manatee Springs but remembered it clearly because it was my first ever sighting. Very unique bird.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Sean M. Duffy, Sr, and Sean M. Duffy, Jr. See: <https://ebird.org/checklist/S69316223>

19. Previous experience with this species: Saw one while we were kayaking in Manatee Springs Fl, also along the coastline about 2008.

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification): Audubon Guide to North American Birds and verification by Joelle Finley after I shared photos to confirm my identification.

a. at time of observation: One previous sighting

b. after observation: Audubon and Joelle Finley

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: I was fairly certain at the time and told my son, I am 96% sure that is a limpkin life we saw at Manatee Springs. I told him I had never seen one in Louisiana and that I would verify the identification.

23. Date: 5/19/20

Time: 1800 hours

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, I posted to my FB and tagged my son, we were both excited about the news Joelle shared with us. Thank her for teaching me and recommending that I file proper notice.

If yes, may we include your name with the report? Yes, you are free to share, and I will be happy to submit more details or answer any inquiries. This was a really neat experience to share with my son.









