

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:

Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*)

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

4, unknown age and sex

3. Parish: St. John the Baptist Parish

Specific Locality: Heard first Limpkin as I arrived at a point count location about 600 m along Mississippi Bayou from the Dutch Bayou intersection. I hiked in ~150 m SE through swamp to get to point (lat: 30.178097°, long: -90.603715°). Limpkin was calling to the ENE ~150-200 m from me. Limpkin was calling very regularly for about 10 minutes straight (got recording of this bird). Heard a second Limpkin to the NE of point ~250-300 m that called several times but not as constant and did not get a recording. We boated back along Dutch Bayou, ~300 m south of the Mississippi Bayou intersection and I hiked ~150 m west into the swamp to another point count location (lat: 30.176022°, long: -90.615301°). Heard a third Limpkin ~200-250 m further WSW from that point. Bird was calling fairly regularly (got a recording of that bird). Fourth Limpkin was heard from the same point to the NE ~400 m. Did not get a recording of this bird.

4. Date(s) when observed:

June 11, 2020

5. Time(s) of day when observed:

First 2 around 8:30 am, second 2 around 9:30 am

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Justin Lehman
City: Baton Rouge
State: Louisiana

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):
Katie Percy, heard 1 of the first 2 (from the boat when she picked me up) and both the other 2 (from the boat when she picked me up)

8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):

None

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):

Did not see bird. Weather was completely sunny, upper 70s with a light breeze

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):

Did not see bird but had my Nikon Monarch 8x42 with me

11. Distance to bird(s):

First Limpkin ~150-200 m ENE from me

Second Limpkin ~250-300 m NE from me

Third Limpkin ~200-250 m WSW from me

Fourth Limpkin ~400 m NE from me

12. Duration of observation:

First 2: ~25 mins

Second 2: ~30 mins

13. Habitat:

Cypress swamp with sparse trees and mostly open canopy. Water was ~18 in. high (water was higher than normal from the recent storm), semiaquatic vegetation reaching another ~0-24 in. out of water. Tons of potential food (apple snails) for Limpkins.

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

Heard all 4 birds calling (did not see). 3 of the 4 birds were calling quite regularly, 4th one called for 10-30 seconds every 5-10 minutes

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*):

Did not see bird

16. Voice:

Loud, high pitched, rattly 'kreow' call, repeating every ~1 sec

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

Red-shouldered Hawk has a high-pitched, loud, repeating call. I hear plenty of them at Maurepas Swamp and the calls I heard were much more raspy/rattly than a RSHA.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo has a loud, raspy, repeating call. I also hear them at Maurepas Swamp and the calls I heard were higher pitched than a YBCU.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):

4 videos (never saw birds but has audio and shows the habitat) and 2 audio files:

<https://nationalaudubon.box.com/s/iexuz2ubnjy4oocnrsrvulxcskc3aba6>

19. Previous experience with this species:

None

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

a. at time of observation: Sibley field guide phone app (listened to calls on app)

b. after observation: Sent the recording to Erik Johnson and he confirmed it as Limpkin

21. This description is written from:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	6/11/20
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

Yes

23. Date: June 12, 2020

Time: 11:30 am

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 _____