

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: Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 female, possibly a first year

3. Parish: St. Tammany

Specific Locality: Lake Pontchartrain at mouth of Tchefuncte River, south of Madisonville

4. Date(s) when observed: 23 December 2023

5. Time(s) of day when observed: approximately 0815-0845 hours

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Christopher G. Brantley
City: Mandeville
State: Louisiana

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

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

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Skies were partly cloudy and bird was backlit by sunlight at times. Viewing direction was generally to south-southeast in a manner away from rising sun over lake.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski EL 10x42 binoculars, Kowa 880 Scope with 25-60x Zoom, Nikon Coolpix P1000 camera

11. Distance to bird(s): approx. 450 m (1476 feet)

12. Duration of observation: for several minutes over the approximate 30 minute span

13. Habitat: open lake waters. Lake waters choppy.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Bird was observed swimming and diving in association with a small flock (5-8) of Bufflehead,

generally in an area near river channel marker 10.

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*): Small diving duck with dark bill, white face, dark cap, brownish cheek patch, dark back.

16. Voice: None noted

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): no other diving duck with white face/cheek patch/small bill

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photos by Christopher G. Brantley attached

19. Previous experience with this species: Yes, several times from same locality

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

a. at time of observation: with Heydi Lopes during the entire observation. I was scanning lake waters with binoculars and noticed a duck in flock of Bufflehead that was different. Heydi was on her scope and got on the bird, noting it was a Long-tailed Duck. I then used the scope to get a better look at the bird before attempting to photograph.

b. after observation: None

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: Yes

23. Date: 24 December 2023

Time: 0545 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 _____

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



