

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: Mew Gull *Larus canus*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): one first winter American subspecies *brachyrhynchus*
3. Locality: Parish: Caddo
Specific Locality: Cross Lake
4. Date(s) when observed: 1-1-16, 1-10-16, 1-13-16, 1-17-16, 1-24-16
5. Time(s) of day when observed: initial observation around 4:40 on 1-1-16 It was seen by myself and numerous observers on subsequent dates.
6. Reporting observer and address: Charles Lyon
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): None on first observation
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): I took multiple observers on the boat with me on subsequent trips. Dave Patton brought his boat as did Larry Raymond on one trip.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): It was approaching sunset when I found the bird on New Years Day, but there was excellent light on most other trips.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): binoculars See my photos from each date.
11. Distance to bird(s): as close as 10 feet Much popcorn as well as other treats were used to bring it in closer.
12. Duration of observation: multiple observations and prolonged views at multiple times

13. Habitat: open water and on lakeside decks

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

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): Medium size gull slightly smaller than Ring-billed Gull that resembled a miniature Herring Gull in plumage pattern. Thin yellow green bill with black terminal part showing no significant gonydeal angle. Very brownish overall with brownish underwings unlike Ring-billed Gull of similar age. Brownish black tail with dark mottled tail coverts unlike RBGU of similar age. Brownish crown and nape, and diffuse warm brown belly. Dark eye and brown ring around eye of this individual

16. Voice: silent

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): RBGU eliminated by description above and documentary photos which are included in the record

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): I have included my multiple photos from all dates of observation.

19. Previous experience with this species: Extensive. I have seen all three different subspecies.

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification): All field guides and gull books I have in my possession.

a. at time of observation: many

b. after observation: many

21. This description is written from: ☒ review of my eBird records and multiple photos from all dates of observation ☐ notes made during the observation (☐ notes attached?); ☐ notes made after the observation (date:); ☐ memory.

22. Are you positive of your identification if not, explain: yes

23. Date: 2-24-18 Time: 5:20 pm

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? _____yes _____
If yes, may we include your name with the report? ____yes_____

[Return to LBRC Page](#)