

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: [Mew Gull \(*Larus canus*\)](#)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
[One basic adult](#)

3. Parish: [East Baton Rouge](#)
Specific Locality: [West Irene Impoundment at BR Landfill](#)
4. Date(s) when observed: [19, 22 February 2021](#)

5. Time(s) of day when observed: [9:25-11:45am, 8:30-9:00am](#)

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Dan Lane
City: Baton Rouge
State: LA

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): [Oscar Johnson, Marky Mutchler \(simultaneously spotted it initially\), Matt Brady, Robb Brumfield, Van Remsen, Cameron Rutt, Eamon Corbett, Andre Moncrief, Phil Stouffer, David Van der Pluym.](#)

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): [Excellent \(see photos\)](#)

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): [Primarily Swarovski 25-60x spotting scope.](#)

11. Distance to bird(s): [on 19th, no closer than 150 m. On 22nd, initially spotted at about](#)

40 m.

12. Duration of observation: Approx 2 hrs, 40 min in total

13. Habitat: shallow settling pond in impoundment.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Mostly sitting on water with Ring-bills, but typically posture was more like Bonaparte's with neck stretched up and looking down into water. The second visit allowed us some views on the beach before it flew out into pond and sat on water. Brief views flying both visits.

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*): Medium-sized gull (slightly smaller, more slender in build) than Ring-bills, with which it could be easily compared. Wing projection noticeably longer. Bill shorter, thinner, with greenish subterminal band. Feet dull greenish-yellow. Eye dark, accentuated with dark feathering around it. Light mottling on crown and rear of head, with darkest patches on center of nape. Mantle and upperwing darker gray than Ring-bills (not as dark as a Laughing, however). Noticeable white patch at back end of scapulars and broader white crescent of closed secondaries allowed us to find the bird on the water as it faced away from us and into the wind. Open wings showed two white mirrors on P10 and 9, and subterminal black as far back as P4, "string of pearls" interior from black forward towards wingtip until P7. This wingtip pattern suggests American subspecies *brachyrhynchus* over *canus* or *kamtschatschensis*.

16. Voice: None heard.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Direct comparison to Ring-billed Gull. No other medium-sized gulls similar.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes. Mine are attached below, but more (including videos) are available on <https://ebird.org/checklist/S81971091>
<https://ebird.org/checklist/S82159878>

19. Previous experience with this species: Limited, mostly in Washington and Alaska. Most recently in AK in Oct 2015.

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

a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: Nat Geo, Sibley, Howell and Dunn Gulls, Adriaens and Gibbins
2016 Larus canus ID (Dutch Birding)

21. This description is written from:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

23. Date: 22 Feb 2021

Time: 1pm

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 _____



19 Feb. Bird just right of center and at rear of group.



19 Feb, bird with wing open.



19 Feb, central bird



19 Feb. Bird left of center.



22 Feb front bird



22 Feb front bird



22 Feb front bird



22 Feb



22 Feb front bird



22 Feb front bird



22 Feb, bird in flight



22 Feb, bird in flight



22 Feb, bird in flight



22 Feb, left bird