

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1
3. Parish:
St. Tammany
4. Specific Locality:
Sunset Point - Mandeville
5. Date(s) when observed: 2/15/2024
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 9am
7. Reporting observer: Jody Shugart
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): overcast
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon DSLR with 600mm lens
12. Distance to bird(s): 50'
13. Duration of observation: 30 minutes
14. Habitat: Lake Pontchartrain open water
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): bird was swimming, generally with other loons. would periodically dive and surface elsewhere

16. 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):

There were a lot of Common Loons on the lake that morning and there was one bird that was noticeably smaller and with a sleeker profile than the chunky common loons. I observed the bird for around half an hour until it swam up under the broken fishing pier with some Common Loons and I was sure it was a different species at this point. It had a well defined light and dark line on its neck where the commons were irregular and the bill was smaller than nearby commons.

17. Voice: NA

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

Common Loon - see 16 and photos with both species for comparison

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

photographs attached, by me

20. Previous experience with this species: none

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

asked LA Rare Birds Group me channel for confirmation

22. Identification aids used when?

At time of sighting

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

yes. good photographs and community agreement

24. Date report completed:

3/25/2024

25. 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

26. If yes, may we include your name with the report?

Yes



