

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: Red footed booby (sula sula)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1, juvenile, lightish brown plumage, blue bill with feet that had a pink tinge to them

3. Parish: Orleans Parish
Specific Locality: City Park (adjacent to Scout Island)

4. Date(s) when observed: 3/20/2020

5. Time(s) of day when observed: 1:48-1:51 PM

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Derek Gay
City: Metairie
State: LA

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): My wife, Kayla, was with me

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

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): It was fairly sunny but the bird was in the open.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): binoculars, 8x42, literally brand new (I have had them for maybe a week and only used them 2-3 times). That being said I took pictures through the lense and it did dull some of the colors that we saw in person. The feet don't look as pink and the bill does not look as blue

11. Distance to bird(s): 10-20 meters. We were fairly close as it flew maybe 5-6 over our

head before landing on a small construction cone not far from our car.

12. Duration of observation: 3-4 minutes

13. Habitat: Out in the open next to by a soccer field

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): It just flew over the top of us, landed not far away and didn't really move, just kind of sat there for a few minutes and then took off again heading south

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*): Wingspan was about a meter but definitely "less than" if I had to estimate. It wasn't a huge bird, maybe like a large mallard for frame of reference? I've never seen a Booby before but I knew how rare they were so tried to take as many mental notes as I could. Brown all over, blue bill with pinkish/yellowish feet

16. Voice: I actually heard it before I saw anything and thought it was a heron at first. Kind of guttural and croaky. Hard to describe sounds obviously but most of the sounds that I have looked up after the fact match that of the red footed booby and not the brown booby

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Brown Booby (see above)

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): I have attached several pictures but they were taken through binoculars so the color is washed out a little

19. Previous experience with this species: none

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

a. at time of observation: Merlin Bird ID, Audubon Field Guide

b. after observation: Merlin Bird ID website, various videos online to listen to the call

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	<input type="checkbox"/> no
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	3/20/2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: I would say I'm about 95% sure but I'm obviously not an expert. The slightly pink feet and the sound in my mind differentiate it from a Brown Booby.

23. Date: 3/21/2020

Time:3:24 PM

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_____





