

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: Rough-legged Hawk; *Buteo lagopus*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 individual
3. Parish: Cameron
Specific Locality: On highway 27 (1130 Marshall) east of the Cameron ferry;
29.7855 – 93.2790
4. Date(s) when observed: March 5, 2019
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 1: 30 pm, approximately
6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Kathleen O'Shaughnessy
City: Lafayette
State: LA
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Chuck Broussard (Note: Chuck spotted the bird; I took pictures. Neither of us identified it as a rough-winged. I posted it on Facebook and various people identified it from the photos)
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Andy Bell, Matthew Pontiff, John Dillon (from photos on Facebook)
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Mid-day, partly cloudy; bird facing the light
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10x and 8x binoculars; Canon camera, 50x zoom

11. Distance to bird(s): 100-120 feet

12. Duration of observation: 5 minutes

13. Habitat: coastal marsh/chenier; about a mile off the Gulf

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

Chuck spotted the bird as we drove past; we turned around and pulled over so that we were facing the bird with the light behind us. It was sitting in a mostly bare tree on the right side of the highway. Sat for a few minutes as we watched and photographed. Flew off over the highway after about 5 minutes.

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*):

The bird caught our eyes because of its white color and size. It was perched amidst bare limbs and was clearly visible.

16. Voice: didn't hear any vocalizations

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

We thought about a white-tailed kite for a moment but ruled that out because it was too big; seemed to us to be about the size of red-tailed hawk. We watched and waited for it to fly to see if it was a white-tailed hawk, since we'd seen reports of one. We ruled that out, though, because the whole head and neck of the bird was so white. Because of the band of brown across the belly and the size, we thought it might be a leucistic red-tailed hawk.

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

Photographs inserted below, taken by me

19. Previous experience with this species: none

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

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation: other birders via Facebook

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"/>

x	memory
x	study of images

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

I am now because I trust the ID of the more experienced birders who provided the information, and after studying the images in the Audubon app field guide, I see that the brown stripe through the eye and the dark band at the edge of the tail, clearly seen in the photos, are distinguishing marks of this species.

23. Date: 3/11/19

Time:9:06 am

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, but it would be more appropriate to credit the sighting to Chuck Broussard; he made the initial spot.

Photos below






