

# LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

## REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: Red-necked Grebe, *Podiceps grisegena*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
One in winter plumage
3. Parish: Orleans  
Specific Locality: Lake Willow Drive lake
4. Date(s) when observed: 27 Dec 2020
5. Time(s) of day when observed: about 7:25-8:00 a.m.
6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Paul E. Conover
City: Lafayette
State: LA
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Van Remsen and Michele McIndon were there when I arrived and for a few minutes afterward.
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): James Beck discovered the bird and other New Orleans CBC party members viewed it.
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Sunny, right after sunrise.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon 20-60 zoom Fieldscope III, Samsung S8 phone cam.
11. Distance to bird(s): at closest probably just within 50 yards.
12. Duration of observation: about 20 minutes total, with bird diving and covering much of lake relocation took a bit.
13. Habitat: Lake within pocket neighborhood.
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Floating at rest, diving, tugging and picking at buoys.

15. Description:

A fairly large, somewhat thickly built grebe with a long pointed bill.

Obviously larger in size and proportions than Horned or Eared grebes even without direct comparison. Body appeared to ride about halfway submerged in water, with hump in center of body sloping symmetrically fore and aft, no visible tail. Neck thick with short swanlike curve. Body appeared dingy at the angle I saw the bird from, dark on top and slightly paler on sides near the waterline. Breast dingy whitish up to neck collar, neck collar dingy reddish-gray. Cap dark, sides of face slightly paler than cap, chin and throat dingy white, extending in thin strap behind auriculars. Wings seemed short vs. body mass; wings with white secondary patch. Bill long, thick at base and symmetrical top and bottom. Bill yellow with dark culmen.

16. Voice: n/a

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Size, shape, and color in addition to size, color, and shape of bill disgnostic.

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

19. Previous experience with this species: this is my first south of Canada, first in winter plumage, first in almost 25 years, but the species is distinctive and not a major ID problem when seen well.

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

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation:

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"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

23. Date: 10 Feb

