

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-naped Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus nuchalis*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
I saw one individual; he was an adult male (red on upper throat and chin). The woodpecker seen was very similar to a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in size and appearance. It had a red throat and chin; red forehead; a strong white line from the bill, under the dark eye, and down the side of the face and edge of the throat. The bird had a white wing patch. Overall the back of the bird was black with a ladder-like markings on the back. The bill was black and pointed. On the back of the neck was red patch that appeared from faint in color to a deep red depending on the light conditions. A very thin black line was seen between the red on the throat and the white line from the bill down along the edge of the throat. The rump was white. The feet were black.
3. Parish: Caldwell Parish, Louisiana
Specific Locality: On Dannehl Road near Columbia, Louisiana. The bird was in Boeuf Wildlife Management Area along Dannehl Road about 0.1 miles west of Big Ridge Road intersection.
4. Date(s) when observed: I observed the sapsucker on 8 February 2016.
5. Time(s) of day when observed: It was seen from 11:15 am until 11:40 am as it foraged on the trunks of two trees. It would fly between the trees and land about 20 feet high on the trunks and large branches. It appeared to be drilling sap holes in the two trees. Some sap holes were clearly evident on one tree trunk.
6. Reporting observer and address: R. Martin Guidry; 6139 North Shore Drive; Baton Rouge, LA 70817
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): None
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Jay Huner and Steve Pagans on earlier dates.

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Sun was behind observer, but overhead with myself between sun and bird. Skies were clear.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Bird was seen through Pentax, 10x40 binoculars in good condition.

11. Distance to bird(s): Bird was seen from as close as 15 yards when foraging on one tree and as far as 50 yards when foraging on second tree.

12. Duration of observation: Bird was observed for approximately 25 minutes from 11:15 am until 11:40 am.

13. Habitat: Deciduous woods of mostly second growth with a few relatively large trees. The woodpecker used two of the larger trees to forage.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Throughout the observation time the bird was foraging on the tree trunks and larger branches or else briefly flying between the two trees.

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 woodpecker seen was very similar to a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in size and appearance. It had a red throat and chin; red forehead; a strong white line from the bill, under the dark eye, and down the side of the face and edge of the throat. The bird had a white wing patch. Overall the back of the bird was black with a ladder-like markings on the back. The bill was black and pointed. On the back of the neck was red patch that appeared from faint in color to a deep red depending on the light conditions. A very thin black line was seen between the red on the throat and the white line from the bill down along the edge of the throat. The rump was white. The feet were black. The red patch on the back of the neck and the very thin black line on the throat area are different from a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

16. Voice: Bird did not call during period of observation

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Yellow-bellied Sapsucker is similar, but does not have a red patch on back of neck and the black line on throat is quite thick.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): None taken by me. Jay Huner and Steve Pagans took photos of it.

19. Previous experience with this species: I have observed Red-naped Sapsucker on several occasions in Colorado, Washington and New Mexico.

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

a. at time of observation: National Geographic Field Guide to Birds of North America

b. after observation: None

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	8 Feb 2016
<input type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: Yes, unless there are subtle differences that would confirm a hybrid with Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. This bird appears to have the confirming markings of Red-naped Sapsucker.

23. Date: 28 February 2016

Time: 9:00 pm

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? __Yes_____

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