

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: [Rock Wren \(*Salpinctes obsoletus*\)](#)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): [One, age/sex unknown](#)
3. Parish: [Vermilion](#)
Specific Locality: [West Liberty Farm Road, 5.2 mi SW of Kaplan, LA \(29.93693, -92.33699\)](#)
4. Date(s) when observed: [14 December 2023](#)
5. Time(s) of day when observed: [1:10pm](#)
6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: Erik I. Johnson
City: Sunset
State: LA
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): [Eric Ripma was with me and he spotted the bird first.](#)
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): [Was found about an hour or two earlier in the day by Esme Rosen, who promptly reported it out through the rare bird alert text chain.](#)
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): [Sunny, early pm winter solstice light. The bird was mostly SE of us, so slightly side-lit.](#)
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): [Vortex Razor 10x42 binoculars, Nikon D7200 DSLR camera with Sigma 150-600mm f/4.5-6.3 lens.](#)

11. Distance to bird(s): [About 40 ft.](#)

12. Duration of observation: [about 5 minutes](#)

13. Habitat: [Rural yard with trailers, other small equipment, and scrap piles](#)

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): [Eric spotted the bird on top of a tire positioned on top of a piece of equipment. The bird was doing the classic wren squats. It then flew closer to the top of a metal beam where it continued to do squats. After about a minute there, offering great photo opportunities, it flew across the yard away from us into a scrap pile.](#)

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*): [Clearly a wren with barred remiges and rectrices, along the long slightly curved bill. Pale overall, whitish below and brownish above, with a tawny vent. An indistinct pale supercilium. Pale spots on back and on top of head.](#)

16. Voice: [Not heard.](#)

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): [Barring pattern rules out most superficially similar families, including things like Northern Wheatear. Larger, more robust, more elongated, and notably paler than House Wren with a longer bill. Much too large for *Cistothorus* wrens, and way too pale for Carolina Wren.](#)

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): [Photos attached.](#)

19. Previous experience with this species: [First one I've seen in Louisiana. I've seen a few out west here and there.](#)

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

a. at time of observation: [None.](#)

b. after observation: [None.](#)

21. This description is written from:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	https://ebird.org/checklist/S156394197
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	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
X	memory		
X	study of images		

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

23. Date: [1 January 2024](#)

Time: [7:50pm](#)

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](#)







