

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-throated Loon, *Gavia stellata*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1 individual. adult, nonbreeding plumage, unknown sex
3. Parish: Jackson
Specific Locality: Caney Creek Reservoir
4. Date(s) when observed: February 22, 2025 and March 9, 2025
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 16:24pm – video and crappy digiscoped phone photos on February 22, 2025 (available upon request)
13:00-13:00pm – camera photos by kayak on March 9, 2025 (attaching these)
6. Reporting observer and address: Katie B. Barnes, 114 Indian Mound Road, Lafayette, LA 70501
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):
February 22- Charlie Lyon, Melissa Weaver (bird was detected by Charlie Lyon- the finder)
March 9- Kenneth Eyster
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
February 22- Charlie Lyon, Melissa Weaver (bird was detected by Charlie Lyon- the finder)
March 9- Kenneth Eyster
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): February 22, 2025, lighting okay, harsh afternoon sun and a bit backlit at times.
bird very distant (1-1.5 miles out, 2 miles max)
March 9, 2025- lighting much better, overcast day. Bird viewed by kayak at a much

shorter distance.

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski ATC 17-40x56 spotting scope, Leica Trinovid 8x42 binoculars, photos with Canon 60D and Canon 400mm 5.6 lens

11. Distance to bird(s): February 22 = 1-1.5 miles (2 mi max) March 9 = 10-15 meters

12. Duration of observation: February 22- 60-80 min, March 9 – 20-25min

13. Habitat: freshwater lake, reservoir

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): swimming, mixed in a group of COLO on both observation dates

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*):

February 22- Charlie Lyon noticed a much smaller loon mixed with COLO and asked for other observers to review/study the bird with him. The lighting was harsh in the afternoon sun, but the size difference was obvious compared to nearby COLO. Charlie managed some photos on Feb 22 to confirm the thinner, upturned bill, white throat and face, and lighter gray back. I took video of COLO swimming by RTLO and confirmed the size differences between the two species.

March 9- RTLO had light gray back, white face and throat contrasting with back, thin upturned bill, long bodied, but much thinner body size compared to nearby COLO.

16. Voice: silent.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): unique coloration separates this species from others. See above comparisons in description.

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

19. Previous experience with this species: No.

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

a. at time of observation: N/A

b. after observation: Sibley Birds, eBird

21. This description is written from:

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

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

23. Date: 3/29/2025

Time: 14:31pm

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

