

## LBRC Report Form

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 non-breeding adult
3. Parish:  
Jackson
4. Specific Locality:  
Caney Creek Reservoir near dam
5. Date(s) when observed: February 22, 2025
6. Time(s) of day when observed: from 3:30 pm until 5:00 pm
7. Reporting observer: Charles Lyon
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):  
Melissa Weaver and Katie Barnes
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):  
None
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): 80% cloud cover with occasional partial sun on bird. Adequate light to evaluate shades of white and gray on the RTLO and multiple COLO for excellent comparison. We were at the boat launch area next to the dam looking SSW at the loon through my Swarovski 30-70 power spotting scope.
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Swarovski 30-70 power spotting scope
12. Distance to bird(s): 1000 meters plus
13. Duration of observation: approximately 2 hours and much of that time was utilized taking digiscope photos through the scope. One photo submitted was taken with my 200-800 zoom lens on a Cannon R5 camera
14. Habitat: deep open water west of the dam
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): the bird was actively swimming and diving in association with Common Loons. A total of 46 COLO were counted.

16. 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):

From eBird report: Small loon 2/3 to 3/4 size of COLO with thin slightly upturned bill, small rounded head showing large amount of white, neck white as well and much lighter overall than associated COLO with grayish back and sides with white flecking and whitish flanks. (The white flecking and other details were seen much better directly through scope than what is revealed by photos.) Longer body and shorter neck than RNGR that we were originally looking for in the cove. All three observers saw the bird well through the spotting scope even though at a distance of at least 1000m. The waters were relatively calm allowing for excellent views despite the great distance to the bird. Documentary photos are submitted as part of this record.

17. Voice: silent

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):  
COLO as above. PALO much blacker backed and darker necked and dark through eye.

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):  
Digiscope scope photos and one photo through zoom camera lens submitted

20. Previous experience with this species: Fairly extensive--other inland sites, Pacific and Atlantic coasts, and recently Alaska, both alternate and basic plumage birds, Admittedly virtually all other sightings seen at much closer range than this bird.

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

Did look at Sibley at the time

22. Identification aids used when?

At time of sighting

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

yes

24. Date report completed:

February 25, 2025

25. 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

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

Yes

















