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: Sandwich Tern (Thalasseus sandvicensis) pale-billed
- 2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 adult male
- 3. Parish: Cameron

Specific Locality: Rutherford Beach

- 4. Date(s) when observed: 11 April 2017
- 5. Time(s) of day when observed: 10:05-10:15 am
- 6. Reporting observer and address: Phillip Wallace Abbeville, LA
- 7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Mac Myers
- 8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s):
- 9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Good
- 10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 10x40 Eagle Bins
- 11. Distance to bird(s): 30 yards
- 12. Duration of observation: 10 minutes

13. Habitat: Gulf beach

- 14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Resting with mixed flock of gulls and terns. Copulating with normal appearing Sandwich Tern.
- 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*): A Sandwich type tern that appeared to be slightly larger than adjacent SATE's. Bill appeared to be slightly thicker, but that is perhaps an illusion because of the primarily pale bill. Bill primarily yellow with an orange tinge, with a black streak on the upper and lower mandibles.

16. Voice: None

- 17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): Size and plumage features indicate Sandwich. Bill color may indicate an individual from one of the Caribbean populations.
- 18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Photos by Wallace accompany this report.
- 19. Previous experience with this species: I've seen plenty of Sandwich Terns, but no adults with this color bill.
- 20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):

a. at time of observation: None

b. after observation: Various websites

21. This description is written from:

	1		
	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	
	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
X	memory		_
X	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: I'm not sure of bill color variation within different populations of SATE.

23. Date: 9 September 2017

Time: 3:30 pm

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____























