

# 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](mailto:zoiseaux@lusfiber.net)> .

1. English and Scientific names: Vaux's Swift

2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):  
24 were counted in a single pass.

3. Parish: East Baton Rouge

Specific Locality: Pennington Biomedical Research Center. Possibly a different group from the one in the University/Capital Lakes area.

4. Date(s) when observed:

30 Jan 2021

5. Time(s) of day when observed:

~12:30PM

6. Reporting observer and city/state address

Reporting observer: David Vander Pluym
City: Baton Rouge
State: Louisiana

7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s):  
Lauren Harter.

8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s):  
Many have had various numbers prior to this and after.

9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light):  
Overcast

10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition):  
10x42 Swarovski's

11. Distance to bird(s):  
<50 feet directly overhead

12. Duration of observation:  
Multiple individuals were around for several minutes but the whole group was only around for a few seconds.

13. Habitat:  
Aerial over lake and nearby open fields/woodlots

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):  
Group was aerial feeding and swirling around in the area.

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*):

Flock was continuing, but I believe this is the current high count. Individually counted as they were feeding overhead. The count was my max count but I easily could have missed some. All appeared uniform in size and structure. Obvious small dark swifts with very quick fluttering wingbeats. All appeared uniform dark with slightly paler throat. Appeared short tailed with broad based wings (about the width of the body) that were then evenly thin lacking any bulge to the secondaries.

16. Voice:  
Heard high pitch and thin chirps/twitters.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):  
Lacked the bulging secondaries of Chimney Swift. Calls also distinctly higher-pitched than a Chimney Swift.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):  
Attached in the e-mail are a couple photos. The photos show at least two individuals.

19. Previous experience with this species:  
Regularly (prior to this year) see Vaux's Swifts in migration and during the breeding season some years and was always on the lookout for a vagrant Chimney Swift (I've only seen the two species together once back in 2006). Have seen up to 27 Vaux's Swift this winter in the East Baton Rouge area (previously submitted). Regularly saw Chimney Swift this past fall, prior to that would be every couple years.

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):  
None

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation:

21. This description is written from:

<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	
X	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	Partially written same day, partially written week later
<input type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

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

Yes

23. Date: 6 Feb 2021

Time:

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?

\_\_\_\_\_Sure\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, may we include your name with the report? \_\_\_\_\_Sure\_\_\_\_\_







