

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Vaux's Swift, *Chaetura vauxi*
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1
3. Parish:
St Martin Parish
4. Specific Locality:
ULL Experimental Farm
5. Date(s) when observed: January 8, 2025
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM
7. Reporting observer: Dave Patton
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Phillip Wallace, Brad Moon
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Partly cloudy skies. Sun behind us for good viewing
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): 8.5X Binoculars
12. Distance to bird(s): Flying in circuits over a rice field from 100 yards to 30 feet away.
13. Duration of observation: about 1 hour off and on
14. Habitat: Old flooded crawfish pond with tall grass and areas of open water
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Constantly feeding on the wing when in view.
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):

Slightly smaller than the hundreds of Tree Swallows also feeding over the crawfish field. About the size of a Chimney Swift. Cigar shaped body with pointed wings that formed a crescent without an easily visible bend in the wings. It flew quickly over the field with rapid wing beats and some gliding. The upper wings, back, crown, and tail were dark. The nape was slightly lighter and the rump was lighter with a hint of buff color. The throat was pale becoming a dirty gray on the chest and belly.

17. Voice: None

18. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation):
Chimney Swift has a consistently dark upper color.

19. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?):
Photographs by Dave Patton attached

20. Previous experience with this species: I have seen a few in the past over Capital Lakes in Baton Rouge.

21. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):
Phone app photos and Sibley

22. Identification aids used when?
At time of sighting, After observation

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

24. Date report completed:
Jan 9, 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











