

LITERATURE CITED

Brown, C.R. and S. Tarof. 2013. Purple Martin (*Progne subis*), version 2.0. In *The Birds of North America*, (A.F. Poole, Editor). Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY. <https://doi.org/10.2173/bna.287>.

MISSISSIPPI'S SECOND LIMPKIN RECORD

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On 24 September 2018, while collecting fish for the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science (MMNS) with museum colleague Matt Wagner, I saw a Limpkin (*Aramus guarana*; Figure 1) from a bridge overlooking Big Springs Creek in Marshall County. Wagner also saw the bird. The day was cool and overcast, and it rained later in the day. We were on Potts Camp Road on a fairly high bridge overlooking the creek (34.634102°N, -89.396687°W). The bird was below us, standing on the edge of a back water slough of the creek. It stood about two feet tall, had brown feathers with white spots on its back, a long neck with lighter brown feathers, long grayish colored legs, and a long, tannish brown, slightly downward curved bill. It was not feeding, and seemed very oblivious to our presence. The bird walked along the bank and eventually hopped across the water before disappearing into the underbrush. I did not hear any vocalizations. I was able to take a few pictures and some short video of the Limpkin before it disappeared (video available online under *The Mississippi Kite* Supplemental Files at missbird.org). I knew I had seen this species many years before at Biscayne National Park at Homestead, Florida, but could not recall its name. Upon returning to the museum I showed fellow staff member Bob Jones the

photographs and video, and he struggled for a moment but eventually realized it was a Limpkin. Unfortunately, I did not realize at the time that this was a rare sighting for Mississippi and did not pursue it any further. Several weeks later, Nick Winstead, MMNS ornithologist, approached me about the sighting after hearing about it from Wagner. I showed Winstead the photographs and video and he also confirmed that it was a Limpkin, and encouraged me to submit a report to the Mississippi Bird Records Committee and write this article.



Figure 1. Limpkin at Big Springs Creek bridge at Potts Camp Road, Marshall County, 24 September 2018.