

PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE
210 Welcome Ave. Norwood, PA 19074

8 February 2001

Tom Wurtenberger
3738 Stump Rd.
Doylestown, PA 18901

Dear Tom,

Thank you for submitting documentation on the apparent Pink-footed Goose at Peace Valley Park on 22 December 1998 (or perhaps your note was forwarded to us from the county compiler). After careful review, the committee regrets that it cannot accept this record. A majority of the members believe that the details are not sufficient to separate the bird conclusively from an immature "Blue" Snow Goose or Greater White-fronted Goose.

The committee emphasizes that non-acceptance does not mean that the bird was not the species reported, but rather that the committee believes the documentation submitted does not support the identification with certainty.

We hope that this will not discourage you from submitting documentation on any rarities you may find in the future.

Finally, the committee apologizes for the unacceptably long delay before all members were able to vote on the record. Circumstances beyond our control caused the problem, and we believe that we are back on a timely track.

Sincerely,

For the Committee:
Paul Hess, Chairman

P.S. Beginning this year observers will receive postcards acknowledging that the committee has received their documentation. In addition, whereas observers formerly were notified only when reports were not accepted (in disappointing or irritating letters like this one), they will now receive cards announcing that their records *have* been accepted.

Record #108-01-1998

12/22/98

108 - 01-1998

Peace Valley Park
North Entrance
7:35 AM

Overcast, cloudy with intermittant rain.
Light winds, temperature 50/55 degrees.

Binoculars: Nikon 8 x 30
Scope: Spacemaster II (22WA)

Pink-footed Goose?

Bird being chased by Great Black-backed Gull.
Smaller than the gull, wings pale/gray, darker at trailing edge.
Dark neck and head, lighter at legs and rump.

Lands in water among Canada Geese, noticeably smaller.
Shorter neck, rounded head, dark brown.
Short stubby dark bill.
Lighter back, grayish brown.
White rump.

Watched for about 15 minutes, approximate distance 50 to 75 yards.

Tom Wurtenberger
3738 Stump Rd.
Doylestown, Pa. 18901
215-249-1189
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Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round One

Species: Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)

Date of Sighting: 22 December 1998 to 22 December 1998

Location: PEACE VALLEY PARK

County: BUCKS

Observer(s): Tom Wurtenberger

Date of Submission: 1998

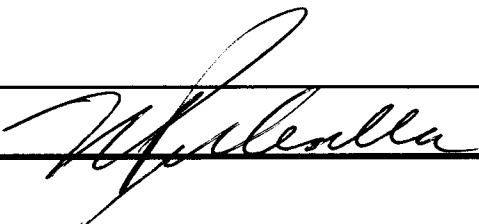
Submitted by: Tom Wurtenberger

Written Description YES *Photo* NO *Specimens* NO *Records* NO

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
D. Couchman				X				
T. Floyd								X
P. Hess					X			
R. Ickes					X			
J. McWilliams						X		
B. Reid					X			
P. Rodewald					X			
TOTALS								
DECISION				1	(4)	1		1

Comments: 0/6/1

Signature (Secretary):



Date:

8/28/00