





112-02-1999

November 23, 1999  
9:00 A.M.

While feeding my domestic ducks and geese on this nice sunny day, I noticed a small white bird resting amid a large flock of Canada geese on our farm located 1/2 mile north of Saltsburg, PA on SR 3002 in Indiana County.

After noting that all my ducks and geese were accounted for, I immediately looked at it with my binoculars and discovered it was a Ross' goose. (Chen rossii)

This bird appeared to be approximately 21"-24" in overall length and had black wing tips. It's head was round and the neck very short. The bill was short and stubby, and pink in color. It's eyes were dark and its legs orange-pink. Several days later I had opportunity to view this bird much closer by standing inside our corn crib and I noticed the legs to be much pinker than I originally thought, and also I noticed some wart-like protuberances between the nostrils and to the base of the bill. This leads me to believe this bird might be an older male.

As the Ross' goose stayed around our farm every day I was able to watch it in flight and was able to note its rapid wingbeats and dark wing tips. During one of my observations from the corn crib, I was about 10 feet from the goose and noticed when it was standing, the top of the folded wing tips were a worn-looking brown with a dark patch about one inch wide across the brown. Again this makes me think this is an older bird or soon to moult.

The Ross' was present everyday from November 23rd till dusk the evening of 11/30/99 and not once was I able to hear its call. I have not seen it since.

Besides my husband David and I, others have viewed and photographed this goose, including Roger and Margaret Higbee, Leonard and Linda Hess, et al.

Equipment I used: Swift Audubon 8.5 X 44 Binoculars  
Canon 35mm FTb Camera w/ Vivatar Macro  
Zoom Lens

Mary Ann Dunmire  
R.D.#1, Box 720B  
Saltsburg, PA 15681

Note:  
The bird  
returned  
Dec. 16  
then again  
in January.  
MAD

# Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

## Voting Ballot - Round One

Species: Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*)

Date of Sighting: 27 November 1999 to 1 January 2000

Location: INDIANA

County: SALTSBURG

Observer(s): Mary Ann Dunmire, Roger Higbee

Date of Submission: 2000

Submitted by: Mary Ann Dunmire, Roger Higbee

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

Specimen: No

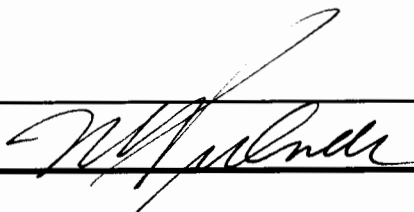
Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
G. Armistead	X							
D. Couchman			X					
P. Hess	X							
R. Ickes	X							
M. Sharp	X							
B. Reid	X							
P. Rodewald	X							
TOTALS	6		1					
DECISION	X							

Comments:

7/0

Signature (Secretary):



Date: 3/12/01