



112-01-2004

PENNSYLVANIA RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

This form is presented as a convenience and guide. It can be used if desired, but is not necessary for submitting a report. Species requiring documentation are those on the Review List or not on the Official List of Birds of Pennsylvania. Send documentation to:

Nick Pulcinella, Secretary
 Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee
 613 Howard Ave.
 West Chester, PA 19380
 nickpul@bellatlantic.net

SPECIES (common and scientific name) ROSS'S GOOSE Chen rossii

Subspecies (if known) _____

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1SEX(ES) unknown

AGE(S) AND PLUMAGE(S) (e.g. immature; adult in breeding plumage; year for gulls; basic or alternate if you prefer those terms; state of molt if applicable): white-morph adult

DATE OF OBSERVATION 1-4-04TIME 3:15-4:00 PMLOCATION (city, borough, township) Shippensburg, PA (Cumberland County)EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) MudLore Rd. (between intersections w/ Duncan + Britton Rds.)

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name Tom JohnsonAddress 24 Meadowood Dr.City HummelstownState PAZIP 17036e-mail (optional) tomahawkpa@comcast.netPhone (optional) (717) 566-9875

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you):

Ramsay Kowry, Joan Renninger, Andy McGinn (Newville CBC)HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) harvested cornfieldDISTANCE TO BIRD 150 yards

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) light rain, very overcast (100%), 40°F - rain however did not hinder study of the ROGO.

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED Eagle Optics Ranger 10x42, Leica scope w/ 20-60 x (Ramsay's scope)

DESCRIPTION (Include as much detail as you observed - size relative to other species present; "jizz" = e.g. posture, body shape, and proportions; colors and patterns of plumage; bill, eye, and leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual): the ROGO was feeding w/ 75 Canada Geese and was about 2/3 the size of the Canadas.

- very clean white plumage except for black primaries (and grayish streaking on neck)
- short neck
- stubby bill (pink) w/o grin patch
- stout pink legs

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

BEHAVIOR (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) The ROGO was observed feeding in a harvested cornfield w/ ~75 Canada Geese. The goose walked a short distance (<100ft) with the flock. Twice I observed Canada Geese harassing + chasing the ROGO, which ran a short distance away. It was not observed in flight.

VOCALIZATIONS

none heard

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph ☒ Video recording ☐ Audio recording ☐ Drawing ☒

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:

Name Andy McGinn

Address _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP _____

e-mail (optional) _____

phone (optional) _____

Please include a copy of the photograph or recording with your report, and accompany it with a complete written documentation if the identification is obvious to you. If you made a drawing, please include it.

IF THIS IS A DEAD BIRD:

General condition _____

If collected (by permit), location and number of specimen if known _____

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others) The ROGO was separated from Snow Goose by neck length, bill size/shape, and bill detail. The neck was very short, unlike the elongated neck of the Snow Goose. The bill was short + stubby. The bill clearly lacked the dark "grin patch" found in Snow Geese.

DISCUSSION – Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it

Ross's Goose appears to be more likely to associate w/ Canada Geese (when alone) than Snow Goose does.

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES

No ROGO experience (a life bird) - I am familiar w/ Snow Goose from ~6 years of winter trips to Middle Creek WMA. (Garvey, Jan, and Andy have all seen ROGO previously)

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? (why or why not) YES. The size, neck length, and bill structure are all indicative of Ross's Goose, plus the association w/ Canada Goose.

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation NONE

After observation NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FIELD GUIDE TO BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA, SIBLEY

DATE OF THIS REPORT: 1-5-03

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER Kam Johnson

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Ross's Goose (Chen rossii)

Date of Sighting: 4 January 2004 to 4 January 2004

Location: SHIPPENSBURG

County : CUMBERLAND

Observer(s): Tom Johnson et al.

Date of Submission: 2004

Submitted by: Tom Johnson

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

Specimen: No

Recording: No

| Member | Class I | Class II | Class III | Class IV-A | Class IV-B | Class IV-C | Class V | Abstain |
|--------------|---------|----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|---------|---------|
| R. Wiltraut | X | | | | | | | |
| D. Heathcote | X | | | | | | | |
| P. Guris | X | | | | | | | |
| J. Stanley | | | | X | | | | |
| E. Witmer | X | | | | | | | |
| R. Leberman | X | | | | | | | |
| M. Sharp | X | | | | | | | |
| TOTALS | 6 | | | 1 | | | | |
| DECISION | X | | | | | | | |

Comments: 6/1

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

4/29/05