115-02-1989 6/29/91

PORC

Barnacle Goose -

Peace Valley Park - Bucks County, Pa - February, 1989

On February 4, 1989, about 3:30 pm, George Franchois and I were scanning the thousands of Canada Geese on the lake at Peace Valley. There was a peak concentration with an order of magnitude of 10000. Due to ice cover, the birds were in a dense group in open water and on surrounding ice. Our thoughts were on White Fronted Goose which probably appears every year at Peace Valley even if we don't always see it.

After searching in the dense pack for a while, I decided to search along the edge of the mass where the birds were walking on the ground. I quickly found a Greenland race Greater White-Fronted Goose. While Franchois was watching this bird and now stimulated by success, I continued to search the edge and approximately 200 feet away was a Barnacle Goose.

As both birds were out of the water we could determine that there were <u>no leg bands</u>. To my knowledge this was the last time anyone saw the birds close out of the water on land. In the future they were out in the water or on the ice separately, often at great distances from each other mixed in with the Canada Geese. I last saw the bird on February 11, eye strain preventing serious future searches. Others saw it later, I think.

If it weren't for the rareness of the Barnacle

Record No.:115-02-1989

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # of

Species: Barnacle Goose

Date of Sighting: 4 February 1989

Observer(s): August Mirabella

Date of Submission: 1991 Bucks

Submitted by: August Mirabella

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V		
					A	B	C
E. Kwater							X
B. Haas							X
F. Haas							X
R. Leberman					X		
G. McWilliams							X
S. Santner				X			
P. Schwalbe							X
TOTALS				1	1		5
DECISION							X

Comments:

Signature (Secretary): B M Haas

Date: 3/7/92