



Additional notes on Barnacle Goose at Green Lane, Montgomery Co., PA.

I saw the Barnacle Goose on 2/24/2011. The bird was actively feeding in a large flock of Canada Geese. This flock also contained a Greater White-fronted Goose that appeared to be of the "Greenland" race with a distinctly orange bill and legs. The Barnacle Goose was unbanded with hind-toes intact and appeared wary (moved away with the other geese upon human approach).

I feel the bird was a wild vagrant. The population of Barnacle Geese breeding in Greenland has been steadily increasing which should bode well for more birds to show up in the northeast U.S. The fact that the flock also contained, what I feel, was a "Greenland" White-fronted Goose also lends some credence to the possibility of the Greenland origins of the Barnacle Goose. Who knows how many of the Canada Geese in that flock may have originated in Greenland. Unfortunately, the bird was not banded which may have aided greatly in establishing its origin. To add some support for wild origin, there was a banded Barnacle Goose observed in Pelham Bay Park, Bronx, NY 11/26/2010. The bird was banded off the west coast of Scotland 11/13/2002 as a juvenile. This area of the island of Islay off the coast of Scotland is considered the wintering grounds for Greenland breeding Barnacle Geese.

Nick Pulcinella

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*

Date of Sighting: 24 February 2011 to 27 February 2011

County : MONTGOMERY

Location : GREEN LANE RESERVOIR

Observer(s): Martin Dellwo, Anita Guris, m.obs

Date of Submission: 2011

Submitted by: Martin Dellwo, Nick Pulcinella

Written Description: No

Photo: Yes

Specimen: No

Recording: No

| Member | Class I | Class II | Class III | Class IV-A | Class IV-B | Class IV-C | Class V | |
|-------------|---------|----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|---------|--|
| D. DeReamus | X | | | | | | | |
| A. Guarente | X | | | | | | | |
| T. Johnson | X | | | | | | | |
| B. Coulter | X | | | | | | | |
| R. Koury | X | | | | | | | |
| D. Weber | X | | | | | | | |
| G. Malosh | X | | | | | | | |
| TOTALS | 7 | | | | | | | |
| DECISION | X | | | | | | | |

Comments:

7/0

Signature (Secretary) Nick Pulcinella

Date:

11/17/11