

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

29 January 2002

Richard Williams  
3 Parkside Drive  
Hummelstown, PA 17036-9280

Dear Dick,

Thank you for submitting documentation on the Trumpeter Swan you and others saw at West Fairview in April 1999. After careful review, the Committee regrets that it cannot accept this record.

The vote not to accept was unanimous, based on an opinion that the details were not sufficient for us to consider Tundra Swan eliminated. Members' ballot comments emphasized that the color of the tomial line and the lack of yellow at the base of the bill are not diagnostic for Trumpeter.

Of course non-acceptance does not imply that the bird was not a Trumpeter Swan, but rather that the Committee could not confirm this confidently from the documentation.

We trust that this will not discourage you from submitting documentation on any future rarities you find.

Sincerely,



For the Committee:  
Paul Hess, Chairman

Record No. 105-02-1999

105-02-1999

RARE BIRD REPORT

Species: Trumpeter Swan Date of this Observation: Multiple observations

Date Found: 4/16/99 Last Date Seen: 4/28/99

Location: On Susquehanna River - Viewed from West Fairview

Township/City: Harrisburg County: Dauphin

Person Writing this report: Richard Williams

Address: 3 Parkside DR

Hummelstown, PA 17036-9280 Phone: 717 566 6562

Other Observers: Ramsay Koury, Joan Reminger

Who found the bird first: Grace Randolph

Other documentation Included: (Circle all appropriate items)(Make sure all attached items are fully labeled)

Photograph

Audio Recording

Video Recording

If a Specimen, where is it stored? N/A

Description: (Attach additional pages as needed—Please do not write on back of this form)

Grace Randolph Comments from 4/16 & 4/18 observations

"One lone Trumpeter Swan, seen from West Fairview on several occasions, finally seen up close at the boat launch to be certain that it had the proper bill markings and shape. There was no yellow at the base of the bill and it had pink eyes".

Joan Reminger's comments from 4/28

"the swan which Ramsay Koury identified yesterday as a Trumpeter swan was in perfect light. The flesh-colored mandible strip was quite obvious."

I was with Joan on 4/28. The swan was close to shore giving us views as close as 50' with binoculars and spotting scope. The "grin line" and the lack of yellow at base of bill distinguished it from tundra swan. Lack of black knobs and all black bill distinguished it from mute swan.

**Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee**

**Voting Ballot - Round One**

Species: Trumpeter Swan (*Tachycineta bicolor*)

Date of Sighting: 16 April 1999 to 28 April 1999

Location: WEST FAIRVIEW

County: DAUPHIN

Observer(s): Richard Williams, Ramsay Koury, Grace Randolph, Joan Renninger

Date of Submission: 1999

Submitted by: Richard Williams

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

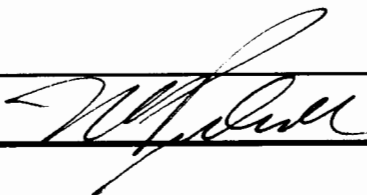
Specimen: No

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			
B. Reid					X			
P. Rodewald					X			
M. Sharp					X			
TOTALS				1	6			
DECISION					X			

Comments: 0/7/0

Signature (Secretary):



Date: 8/12/01