

105-05-1999

Trumpeter Swans 8/29/99

Two white swans with black bills touched down at the New Galilee Wetland near the intersection of Rt 60 and the PA Tpk in Beaver county at 8:30 am on 8/29/99. They were viewed for about 30 minutes with 8x30 Swarovski binoculars from about 30 yards away and about 10 yards above (the wetland is sunk down) by one observer, me. The sun was behind me; there were no clouds to speak of. The Audubon Master Guide and the Am Bird Conservancy's "All the Birds of NA" were on the picnic table in front of me as I observed the swans. The birds stood or walked the entire time as the water - what there was of it - was extremely shallow. Other species present included large and small Calidris sp, LeYe, killdeer, GrHe &c. When I left at 9 am the swans were still present, but at 2 pm, when John Cruzan's group arrived, the birds were gone.

The bills on both birds entirely lacked any yellow; the profile of head and bill was long and flat. The eye in no way seemed to be "isolated on the white face", but was completely part of the bill. I didn't think to specifically note the extent of color in the gape although I do remember there was some. The neck was held with a decided puffed-out droop at the base and held curved; it was not held erect. The birds were rather suspicious of me, but in no way skittish. No neck cones were seen (I saw TrSw near Toledo which had neck cones several years ago); I didn't notice any leg bands.

Voice. The birds called as they touched down, but not when they were on the mud flat. I have no clear recollection of what they said other than that it didn't remind me of CaGo - or anything else - at all and was lower pitched than CaGo. On the other hand it wasn't terribly loud.

Please let me know if you need further info.

submitted by Bill Hintze 9/28/1999  
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**Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee**

**Voting Ballot - Round One**

Species: Trumpeter Swan ( Tachycineta bicolor )

Date of Sighting: 29 August 1999 to 29 August 1999

Location: BEAVER

County: NEW GALILEE WETLAND

Observer(s): Bill Hintze

Date of Submission: 1999

Submitted by: Bill Hintze

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

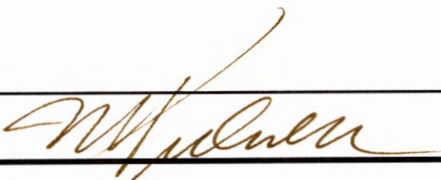
Specimen: No

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				
M. Sharp				X				
B. Reid				X				
P. Rodewald					X			
TOTALS				4	1		2	
DECISION				X				

Comments: 0/7

Signature (Secretary):



Date: 3/12/01