

Thursday, October 28, 2004

Dan Snell
PO Box 653
Shippensburg PA 17257

Thank you for sending in the documentation of the Trumpeter Swans you saw at the Haines-Seville wetlands restoration area in April of 2001. The description, field notes and sketch are excellent. As you suspected the committee voted 5-2 to place the record in the unknown origins category. No one disputed the identification, but with an active restoration program in progress in Ontario and Ohio the likelihood is that the bird was released. At this point I don't think any Trumpeter Swan other than a banded wild bird would be accepted in PA. However, in my view, this makes documenting the birds that do occur all the more important since they seem to be establishing themselves and routinely wandering into the state.

Sincerely

Matt Sharp
Chair: Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee.

105-01-2001

RARE BIRD REPORT

Species: TRUMPETER SWAN Date of this Observation: 04-13-2001

Date Found: 04-13-01 Last Date Seen: 04-13-01

Location: Haines-Seville Wetlands Restoration Area

Township/City: Harrisonville County: FULTON

Person Writing this report: Dan Snell

Address: PO Box 653

Shippensburg PA 17257 Phone: 717-532-7708

Other Observers: _____

Who found the bird first: Mike Newell (but unknown to me at the time)

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? _____

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

TIME - (1030-1130)

CONDITIONS - sunny, breezy

The two Trumpeter Swans were along the southwestern edge of the marsh, feeding along the shallow corners of the tract. The wetlands trail offered a close vantage (about 100 feet) point to the swans. These two individuals DID NOT have a neck band and one did not appear to have a leg band. They did seem to be relatively "tame."

BODY: very large and mostly white. One bird exhibited completely white plumage. The other bird was white with some grayish wash (faint) in the wing areas.

LEGS: black

BILL: both birds showed an all black bill with a little red-orange stripe separating upper and lower bill. There was a slight protuberance ridge along the top (See drawings for angles and slope of bill.)

HEAD: white with dusty wash (brownish light), flat crown appearance, very long neck, black eyes + lores blending into bill

BACK: profile shape was evenly rounded on both birds.

(PLEASE SEE ATTACHED NOTES FOR FURTHER DESCRIPTION)

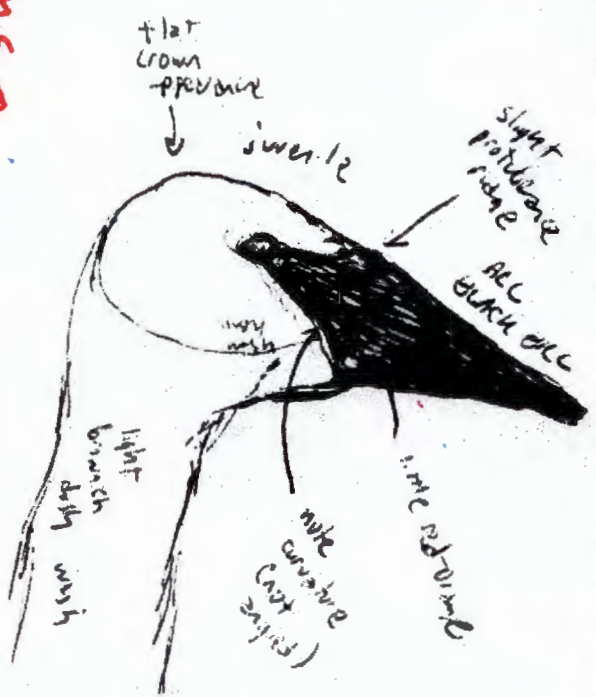
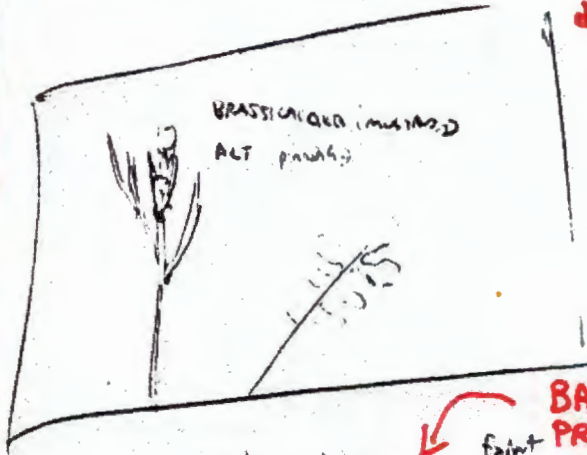
Although these two birds are probably considered "escapes" or part of the "reintroduction program." It's nice to see these birds using a wetlands restoration area (five years ago it was a meadow/field) ~~developed~~ created by PENDOT. After seeing the birds, I drove to Mike Newell's house (in Harrisonville) and he told me "he knew the swans been there for a few days, and he thought they looked like Trumpeters, but wasn't 100% sure"

4/13/01 TRUMPETER SWAN - FULTON COUNT

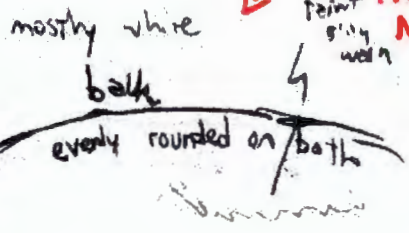
105-01-2001

d. snell notes

All Notes drawn in field



BACK PROFILE NOTES



@ 1500 1622 - Broad-winged Hawk

4/13/01 (Good Friday)

745-750 - FRIP

L Yellowlegs Killdeer GWTAL ♂, ♀ Can. Crow ♂

830-845 - MGL

Can. Crow Hooded Merganser ♀ Bullfinch ♂ 2 ♀

Admug 7 Mallard

Can. Crow 1 summer, 1 winter

FORSTER'S TEAL 1

→ Johnson Drive (Kumbank)

TV 3 Black Vulture 1

7:50 → Robin

L Water 111

Roadside 111

W. Sparrow 111

B.C. Crow 11

Pileated Woodpecker, N. Cardinal 111

Yellowbird 111

RT Towhee

Kingfisher

Flamingo (Bluebird, P. Wren, Cut-leaved Towhee, 6 sp. Nighthawk, Ve. Bluebird, Spring Wren, Thrush, Tit, Salt-hat (Hest-All)

Loons proper

1030

MSWRA

P. Oriole 11

B. Towhee ♂ 111 ♀ 11

Canada Goose

Roadside 1 ♀

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Tabulation Form - Round One

Species: Trumpeter Swan (Cygnus buccinator)

Date of Sighting: 13 April 2001 to 13 April 2001

Location: HAINES-SEVILLE WETLANDS RESTORATION AREA

County: FULTON

Observer(s): Dan Snell

Date of Submission: 2001

Submitted by: Dan Snell

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

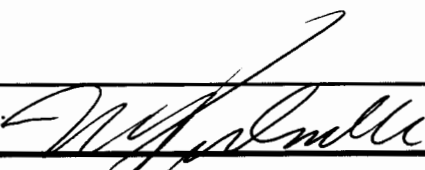
Specimen: No

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. Heathcote							X	
P. Hess							X	
J. Stanley			X					
E. Witmer							X	
R. Leberman			X					
M. Sharp							X	
TOTALS			2				5	
DECISION							X	

Comments: 2/5

Signature (Secretary):



Date: 1/9/03