





















PENNSYLVANIA RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

This form is presented as a convenience and guide. It can be used if desired, but is not necessary for submitting a report. Species requiring documentation are those on the Review List or not on the Official List of Birds of Pennsylvania. Send documentation to:

Nick Pulcinella, Secretary
Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee
613 Howard Ave.
West Chester, PA 19380
nickpulcinella@comcast.net

SPECIES (common and scientific name) Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula)
Subspecies, if known _____

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 SEX(ES) Female

AGE(S) AND PLUMAGE(S) (e.g. immature; adult in breeding plumage; year for gulls; basic or alternate if you prefer those terms; state of molt if applicable): Adult in breeding plumage.

DATE OF OBSERVATION 18 March 2010 TIME 1710 hours (5:17 pm)

LOCATION (city, borough, township) Chester Springs, Pennsylvania

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) Fellowship Road

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name Pamela D. Fisher
Address 761 Willow Lane
City Gap State PA ZIP 17527
e-mail (optional) goldengle-60@yahoo.com phone (optional) 717-442-9497

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you): _____

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) Pond in at a wastewater treatment facility

DISTANCE TO BIRD ~~200 yards~~ 200-300 yards

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) Clear, sunny, calm. The sun was to my left, and a little behind me.

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED Kowa TSN-662 20-60x 66mm

DESCRIPTION (Include as much detail as you observed - size relative to other species present; "jizz" = e.g. posture, body shape, and proportions; colors and patterns of plumage; bill, eye, and leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual): This bird was very dark all over the face. She had a yellow eye, no eye ring. There was no white at the base of the bill. The bill was gray-blue. ~~I can~~ The chest and back were dark. The sides were lighter. She appeared to me to be the same size as the Ring-necked Ducks, larger than the Ruddy Ducks. The tuft was visible occasionally. I thought her head appeared rounder than the Ring-necked Ducks. Her legs were dark grey. Her belly was white. You ~~can~~ could see a white wing stripe when she flapped her wings.

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

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.....
SPECIES (common and scientific name) TUFTED DUCK
Subspecies (if known) _____

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 **SEX(ES)** FEMALE

AGE(S) AND PLUMAGE(S) (e.g. immature; adult in breeding plumage; year for gulls; basic or alternate if you prefer those terms; state of molt if applicable): _____

DATE OF OBSERVATION 3/18/10 **TIME** 7 PM

LOCATION (city, borough, township) EAGLE, PA
FELLOWSHIP RD - WATER TREATMENT PONDS

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) ↓ CHESTER COUNTY

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name AL GUARENTE
Address 421 S OLD MIDDLETOWN RD
City MEDIA State PA ZIP 19063
e-mail (optional) OWLGUARENTE@YAHOO.COM phone (optional) 610-566-8266

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you):
DAVE EBERLY

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) SMALL PONDS

DISTANCE TO BIRD 100 YARDS

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) CLEAR AND SUN AT OUR BACK

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED 20X60 LEICA SCOPE

DESCRIPTION (Include as much detail as you observed – size relative to other species present; "jizz"= e.g. posture, body shape, and proportions; colors and patterns of plumage; bill, eye, and leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual): THIS FEMALE WAS VERY DARK BROWN IN COLOR AND ESPECIALLY DARKER ON FLANKS THEN THE ACCOMPANYING FEMALE RINGED-NECKED DUCKS. THE BILL HAD A BLACK TIP FOLLOWED BY A WHITE LINE AROUND THE UPPER MANDIBLE. WHITE WAS NOT NEARLY AS PRONOUNCED AS FEMALE RINGED-NECKS. THERE WAS NO SIGN OF A WHITE FACE PATCH WHERE BILL MEETS THE HEAD. EYES WERE YELLOW. THE HEAD SHAPE WAS VERY ROUNDED, NO SIGN OF ANY POINT LIKE THE RING-NECKS. THE SMALL TUFT WAS ONLY VISIBLE WHEN BIRD WAS RELAXED, WHEN ACTIVELY FEEDING TUFT WAS NOT VISIBLE.

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

BEHAVIOR (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) SEEN BOTH ACTIVELY DIVING AND LATER PREENING.

VOCALIZATIONS

NONE

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph Video recording Audio recording Drawing

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
e-mail (optional) _____ phone (optional) _____

Please include a copy of the photograph or recording with your report, and accompany it with a complete written documentation if the identification is obvious to you. If you made a drawing, please include it.

IF THIS IS A DEAD BIRD:

General condition —
If collected (by permit), location and number of specimen if known _____

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others)

THE SCAUPS COULD BE ELIMINATED DUE TO LACK OF WHITE FACIAL PATCH. ALSO YOU COULD SOMETIMES SEE THE SMALL TUFT ON THIS BIRD. THE WELL ROUNDED HEAD AND DARK FLANK WOULD HELP ELIMINATE ~~THE~~ FEMALE RING-NECKS.

DISCUSSION – Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES

SEEN THE FEMALE TUFTED DUCK IN BUCKS COUNTY AND ALSO ON SILVER LAKE, DE.

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION ? (why or why not) YES

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation NAT'L GEO + SIBLEY
After observation " "

DATE OF THIS REPORT: 3/19/10

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER *Al Laurent*

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SPECIES (common and scientific name): **Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*)**

Subspecies (if known): **monotypic**

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS: One **SEX(ES):** adult female

AGE(S) AND PLUMAGE(S) (e.g. immature; adult in breeding plumage; year for gulls; basic or alternate if you prefer those terms; state of molt if applicable): **adult female, white-undertail variant**

DATE OF OBSERVATION: 18 March 2010 **TIME:** 4:15-5:30 PM EDT

LOCATION (city, borough, township): **Upper Uwchlan Twp., Eagle**

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road): **Rte. 100 Wastewater Treatment Plant off Fellowship Rd.**

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name: Devin Bosler

Address: 2074 Jarvis Road

City: Lancaster **State:** PA **ZIP:** 17601

e-mail (optional): devinbosler@gmail.com **phone (optional):** (717) 203-1795

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you):

Justin Bosler, Ramsay Koury, Drew Weber, m. ob. (originally discovered by Holly Merker around midday)

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details): **Small, freshwater settling pond in suburban area.**

DISTANCE TO BIRD: ca. 150+ meters

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you): **Sunny with clear sky. Optimal viewing conditions with higher sun angle and backlighting/glare not a factor.**

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED: Zeiss Victory FL 8x42, Kowa TSN 881 Angled 88mm scope w/ 20-60x optical zoom, Canon Powershot SD1100 IS digital camera

DESCRIPTION (Include as much detail as you observed – size relative to other species present; "jizz"= e.g. posture, body shape, and proportions; colors and patterns of plumage; bill, eye, and leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual):

Medium-sized, dark diving duck. Relatively small-bodied and large-headed. Cold, dark brown head and upperparts. Dark brown breast contrasting with paler sides and flanks. Short, brown crest on rear crown. Bold white patch on secondaries continuing through inner primaries seen on spread wing. Blue-gray bill with broad black nail at tip. Pale yellow irides.

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

BEHAVIOR (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing): **Diving frequently and preening intermittently in loose association with Ring-necked Ducks (*Aythya collaris*).**

VOCALIZATIONS: Silent.

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph Yes Video recording Audio recording Drawing

Photographer/recorder/illustrator: **Devin Bosler (digiscoped photos attached)**

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others):

Adult female Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) can be eliminated by overall cold, dark brown plumage, short crest, and lack of prominent white ring at bill base. Also, both scaup show less black on nail of bill. Female Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) shows pale grayish head, white eye ring, dark (not pale yellow) irides, and tricolored bill. Ring-neckeds are warm brown on breast and upperparts, not nearly as dark as female Tufted.

DISCUSSION – Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it: **An adult male was discovered in MD on 15 March 2010, only a few days prior to the discovery of the PA bird. Perhaps these Tufteds wintered farther south and were associated with peak northbound movement of other *Aythya*, primarily Lesser Scaups and Ring-necked Ducks.**

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES: Previous experience with first-winter male in Rehoboth Beach, (*Sussex Co.*), DE on 20 Feb 2000 and ad. male at Lake Dardanelle (*Yell Co.*), AR on 26 Nov 2006.

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION ? (why or why not): **Yes, 100% positive.**

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation: **none**

After observation: **National Geographic Complete Birds of North America (Alderfer et al. 2006).**

DATE OF THIS REPORT: 7 April 2010

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER: Devin Bosler

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

Date of Sighting: 18 March 2010 to 27 March 2010

County : CHESTER

Location : UPPER UWCHLAN TWP. WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Observer(s): Holly Merker, multiple observers

Date of Submission: 2010

Submitted by: Al Guarente, Pam Fisher, Devin Bosler, Jeffrey Davis, Drew Weber

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
R. Wiltraut	X							
A. Guarente	X							
T. Johnson	X							
B. Coulter D. DeReams	X							
C. Rutt B. Coulter	X							
J. Heller	X							
G. Malosh	X							
TOTALS	7							
DECISION	X							

Comments: 7/10

Signature (Secretary) Nick Pulcinella

Date: 7/10/10