

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
nickpul@bellatlantic.net

149-01-2003

SPECIES (common and scientific name) Harelda Duck (Histrionicus histrionicus)
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

DATE OF OBSERVATION Jan 26, 2003 TIME ~ 9:00 a.m. EST

LOCATION (city, borough, township) Juniata Township

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) T 436

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name Greg Grove
Address R.O. 1 Box 483
City Petersburg State Pa ZIP 16669
e-mail (optional) ggg2@psu.edu phone (optional) 814 667 2305

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you):
David + Trudy Kyler

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

DISTANCE TO BIRD 25 yards

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you)
partly cloudy - no precip
good viewing conditions

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED Swarovski 10x42 EL
Space master scope

149-01-2003

Harlequin Duck - , Raystown branch, Juniata River, Huntingdon county - Jan-Feb 2003

Description

Size - Fairly small duck - nearly identical in size to female Bufflehead with which it was closely and constantly associated.

Overall coloration - mostly dull brown with differing tones of brown.

Face/Head - Most distinguishing feature at first glance.

Brown, except - three white patches on both sides.

Patch # 1 - The brightest (most conspicuous) patch was behind and somewhat below the level of the eye. This patch was much larger than the eye. And was mostly round. (Perhaps like a nickel or quarter).

Patch # 2 - The second most obvious patch from side view was mostly below and somewhat extending in front of eye. This patch was obvious but not quite so bright and sharply defined as the first patch. It's shape was roughly triangular. Close in size (slightly smaller perhaps) to patch # 1.

Patch # 3 - This patch was apparent only when head was turned to allow observer to see some of forehead. Essentially in front of eye. Sharply outlined. Smaller than patches 1,2. Probably less than size of a dime.

Bill - short. Dull gray, brown. (not like a scoter bill)

Body plumage - Brown on back and flanks - but two-toned. Back noticeably (not dramatically) darker brown than flanks. Belly (seen when preening) dull white. White patch not sharply outlined.

Wings - seen in flight from rear contained no visible white or colored patches. Appeared to be uniformly dark/brown

149-01-2003

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SPECIES (common and scientific name) HARLEQUIN DUCK
Subspecies, if known (~~HISTRIONICUS~~ HISTRIONICUS)

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 NON-BREEDING

DATE OF OBSERVATION 1/26/2003 TIME 8³⁰ AM

LOCATION (city, borough, township) JUNIATA TWP (HUNTINGDON COUNTY)

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) T430 (3.1 MILES SOUTH OF POINT ACCESS)

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name DAVID KYRKE
Address PO BOX 159A
City HUNTINGDON State PA ZIP 16652
e-mail (optional) DAVIDKYRKE@PHASIS.COM phone (optional) (814) 643-6030

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you):
TRUDY KYRKE, GREG GROVE

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) RIVER
RAYSTOWN BARREN

DISTANCE TO BIRD 150 FT

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) Partly
Cloudy

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED 10x BINOCULARS, 20x SCOPE

149-01-2003

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): _____

SIZE WAS SLIGHTLY LARGER THAN THE FEMALE BUFFBREAST THAT SHE WAS SEEN WITH. BODY COLOR WAS A WARM BROWN WITH STRONG WHITE PATCH BEHIND EYE, SLIGHTLY SMALLER WHITE PATCH (FADED) DIRECTLY BEHIND DARK EYE, “ALWAYS” SLASH AT 45° ABOVE EYE, BILL WAS SMALL, DARK GRAY TO BLACK WHEN PRESENT & WING SURFACING NO WING PATCH WAS OBSERVED.
WHEN DIVING (WITH BUFFBREAST) TO FEED THE HALLIBUT WOULD “POD” HIGHER THAN THE BUFFBREAST WHEN SURFACING, SUGGESTING THAT IT WAS MORE BUOYANT.
WHEN DIVING TO FEED IT WOULD SPREAD OUT ITS WINGS TO SUBMERGE MUCH LIKE AN ALCID WOULD DO.

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

BEHAVIOR (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) _____

(SEE ABOVE)

VOCALIZATIONS _____

(NO SOUNDS WERE HEARD)

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph Video recording _____ Audio recording _____ Drawing _____

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:

Name TRACY KYLE
Address (SAME AS ABOVE)
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 of specimen if known _____

149-01-2003

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others)

BILL AND BODY SIZE MUCH SMALLER THAN
POSSIBLE WHITE-WINGS OR SOOTY POUL (FEMALE)
(THANKS TO CLOSE PROXIMITY OF FEMALE BUFFHEAD)

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

SUBSEQUENT SIGHTINGS AT THE SAME LOCATION
WERE MADE BY DENNIS HOFFMAN, TOM GRANT, ET AL.

PERSONAL REVISITS AT THE SAME LOCATION WERE
MADE ON 2/2/03, 2/11/03, AND 2/18/03 WITH
BOTH FEMALE BUFFHEAD AND FEMALE HERRING
PRESENT ON ALL DATES.

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES BOTH
MALE & FEMALE HERRING SEEN NUMEROUS TIMES IN
NEW JERSEY AND ALASKA

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? (why or why not) YES,
ALL OF THE ID MARKS WERE THERE

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation _____
After observation SERAF & NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

DATE OF THIS REPORT: 2/11/03

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER 



149-01-2003 Harlequin Duck 1/26/03 Juniata Trp. Huntingdon CO
DAVID KYLCA

149-01-2003

Harlequin Duck – , Raystown branch, Juniata River, Huntingdon county – Jan-Feb 2003

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Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*)

Date of Sighting: 26 January 2003 to 26 January 2003

Location: JUNIATA TOWNSHIP

County : HUNTINGDON

Observer(s): Greg Grove, David Kyler

Date of Submission: 2003

Submitted by: Greg Grove, David Kyler

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	Abstain
G. Armistead	X							
D. Heathcote	X							
P. Guris	X							
J. Stanley			X					
E. Witmer	X							
R. Leberman								
M. Sharp	X							
TOTALS	5		1					
DECISION	X							

Comments: 6/0

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

4/1/04