

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2019-03-16 05:54:11
Observer's Name	August Mirabella
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Phone	215-368-0594
Observer's Address	1443 Wheaton Lane North Wales PA 19454 United States
Names of additional observers	Alone the first day. Others presumably saw the same bird on later days.
Species (Common Name)	Barrow's Goldeneye
Species (Scientific Name)	<i>Bucephala islandica</i>
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	female
Observation Date and Time	01-22-2019 1:30 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
County	Bucks
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Haycock Twp.
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Nockamixon State Park (NSP)
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.464214, -75.232607
Habitat	large lake
Distance to bird	900 feet
Viewing conditions	Excellent-bright sun on bird
Optical equipment used	Leica Scope/Zeiss Binoculars

Description	<p>Only had it for about 30 minutes from the time it flew in from the southwest and took off to the northeast. It was diving most of the time. Couldn't be relocated in a flock of Common Goldeneye (COGO) visible from Tohickon Boat Access despite multiple observers searching. The bill was all bright yellow/orange in the bright sunshine. This was what first attracted my attention as it flew in. The head was peaked at the front of the crown rather than the middle, and the forehead was steep. The back of the head was smoothly sloping with a somewhat puffy "mane." The bill had a rather stubby appearance. My reaction was a dark colored head although no female COGO were present. All points seemed to be definitive for BAGO in combination. The pictures although poor support most of what I saw through the scope.</p>
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	<p>Diving repeatedly. Lucky I got any pictures.</p>
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	<p>The bill of COGO should appear longer and straighter connected to a sloping forehead. Although no COGO were present to compare head color, my immediate reaction was it was very dark compared to browner COGO .</p>
Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:	<p>The bird was seen leaving to the northeast. The next day, Devich Farbotnik found presumably the same bird on the Delaware R. at Tinicum County Park. Later that morning I refound the bird from the Frenchtown, NJ side of the river against the PA shore just north of Tinicum Park. This time it was with several COGO for direct comparison of head shape and color. Although all other birders had given up and left, I called them and almost all returned to see it. The next reliable report was 2/22 at NSP, again found by Devich Farbotnik and presumed to be the same bird. I was able to see it that day as well (photo). eBird entry https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S53091313 It was not reported again until 3/9 at NSP by Paul Cooper (photo). eBird link https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S53656578</p>
Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)	<p>Yes, multiple ID points seen. Photos support ID.</p>
During	<p>None</p>
After	<p>Sibley</p>
Supporting evidence (check all that apply)	<p>Photograph Video</p>
Upload images, audio, video or drawings	



[Barrow's Goldeneye 1-22-2019 Nockamixon St. Pk. \(2\).jpg](#)



[Barrow's Goldeneye 1-22-2019 Nockamixon St. Pk..JPG](#)



[MDG_0001_Moment\(3\).jpg](#)