

June 25, 1990
York County

007-01-1990

Horned Grebe

I'm not sure of the Summer status of the Horned Grebe in Pa. but for this area there are no records that I know of. Earl Poole's Pa. Birds states that one summered at Reedsville in 1953. Of course most of us don't have access to all the records of your files and that puts us in a position of not knowing--.

I was driving the Long Level Rd. Parallel to the Susquehanna R. about 11 AM on June 25 when I sighted what I thought could be a small decoy. Parking the car & walking back I saw the ear tufts which make it easy to identify as a Horned Grebe. It was a bright sunny day. This bird wasn't sleeping but I was able to get as close as about 50 ft. It just kept sitting there, on the calm surface of the water moving out farther only as I got closer to the shore. I observed it for about $\frac{1}{2}$ hr, with my 15x16 Zeiss, which I didn't need, & it was still there when I left. It couldn't be found the following day or later.

The ear tufts indicate that it was an adult bird. They were completely above the eye & extending back & over

the head. They were a sort of creamy white color except near the ends which were golden. The head was dark but not black sort of more a dark gray. The red eye + short straight bill were easily seen. It was riding high on the water. The neck + sides were of gray + white ^{blend} with a narrow dark streak down the back of the neck. There was no rusty color showing anywhere. The back was dark except for a few white spots, + a larger white streak along the upper side wing area.

This description can give you an idea of what can be expected for this time of year unless there is a non-breeding¹ of which I can't seem to find a reference to anywhere.

Al Greese

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # of

Species: **Horned Grebe**

Date of Sighting: **June 25, 1990**

Observer(s): **Al Spiese**

Date of Submission: **1990**

Submitted by: **Al Spiese**

| Member | Class I | Class II | Class III | Class IV | Class V | | |
|---------------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|---|---|
| | | | | | A | B | C |
| E. Kwater | | | X | | | | |
| B. Haas | | | X | | | | |
| F. Haas | | | X | | | | |
| R. Leberman | | | X | | | | |
| G. McWilliams | | | X | | | | |
| S. Santner | | | X | | | | |
| P. Schwalbe | | | | | | | X |
| TOTALS | | | 6 | | | | 1 |
| DECISION | | | X | | | | |

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

Bu Haas

Date:

3-24-91