



THE CARNEGIE
MUSEUM OF
NATURAL HISTORY

009-01-1994

PORC

EARED GREBE in Westmoreland Co., PA

Observer: Robert C. Leberman

Date: April 6, 1994

Locality: Trout Run Reservoir [also called Latrobe Reservoir], just northwest of Ligonier, Westmoreland Co., PA

On April 6, 1994 there was a good fallout of grebes and other waterfowl on most all of the larger lakes and ponds in the Ligonier Valley. Among the four species of grebe on Trout Run Reservoir on that date was an Eared Grebe in "winter" plumage. I was able to study the bird carefully with a "scope" for over 15 minutes at a distance of no more than 150 feet. At one time I was able to "scope" Pied-billed, Horned, Red-necked and the Eared Grebe all at the same time. The upturned shape of the bill could be clearly seen, as could the distinctive white ear and throat patches. The "carriage" of the bird was more upright than that of the Horned Grebes and the profile more slender. The neck was more dark than white. Several other birders, including Don Koch, reportedly saw the Eared Grebe there the next day (details not at hand); and another (adult plumage) was reported at Acme Dam (perhaps 10 mi. south of Trout Run) on 15 April by Randy and Sarah Gerrish.

009-02-1994

Eared Grebe

Podiceps nigricollis

Location: Presque Isle State Park

Date: April 14, 1994

Time: 5:30 to 6:00 PM

Weather: Clear, no wind, water like glass

Observer: Jerry McWilliams

Optics: Zeiss 10 X 40 Binocular and TSN 4 Kowa scope at 30 X

Details of sighting and description of bird: The grebe was by itself, however I estimated several hundred Horned Grebes in Presque Isle Bay about 45 minutes before spotting this bird. Unlike all of the Horned Grebes, the Eared Grebe was in complete basic plumage. At a distance of about 100 yards away the following field characteristics were seen that identified the grebe as an Eared: The bill was thin and all black and the lower mandible angled upwards about mid-way giving the bill an upturned look. The forehead was steep forming a point near the middle of the crown. The face and neck were dusky except for a small patch of white behind the ear and a bit of white on the chin and upper throat. Some white was also present near the lower part of the neck near the water line. The upper body was dark gray with smudges of white present along the flanks.

Eared Grebe has become an annual bird in Erie County the past few years especially in the fall. I have seen about 18 birds in this plumage in Erie Co.



Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: **Eared Grebe (Podiceps nigricollis)**

Date of Sighting: **6 April 1994 to 7 April 1994**

Location: **TROUT RUN RESERVOIR**

County: **WESTMORELAND**

Observer(s): **Robert C. Leberman**

Date of Submission: **1994**

Submitted by: **Robert C. Leberman**

Written Description: **YES** Photo: **NO** Specimen: **NO**

Recording: **NONE**

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas			X					
N. Pulcinella			X					
E. Kwater						X		
R. Ickes			X					
G. McWilliams			X					
P. Schwalbe			X					
J. Skinner			X					
TOTALS			6			1		
DECISION			X					

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F. C Haas

Date:

3-31-95