

009-04-1994

**Eared Grebe**  
*Podiceps nigricollis*

Location: Presque Isle State Park

Date: May 13, 1994

Time: 2:15 PM to 3:00 PM

Weather: Clear, visibility excellent

Observer: Jerry McWilliams

Optics: Kowa TSN 4 Spotting Scope from 30X to 50X

Details of sighting and description of bird: While scanning the bay from the first parking lot east of Leo's, I spotted a single bird about 200 to 300 yards away from shore. The water was calm and the bird could easily be identified as an Eared Grebe in alternate definitive plumage. Since the bird was on its own, it was difficult to accurately describe the size of the bird. In my judgment it appeared to be the size of a Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*). The entire head, neck, upper breast and back were black. There was a distinctive tuft that when raised came to a point in the center of the crown. There were hair-like orange feathers emanating from behind the eye flaring in all directions that appeared from a distance as an orange patch behind the eye. The orange patch was not as neatly defined and did not rise above the head as in Horned Grebe. The flanks were reddish. The belly and lower breast were white. The bill was black and thin with the lower mandible angling upwards giving the bill a slightly upturned look. I watched it preen for a short time before it settled down to sleep. Even with the head tucked over its back, the tuft was clearly visible.

I took several photographs of the Eared Grebe through my spotting scope.

I have seen many Eared Grebes in Erie County and in the west. Most of the birds seen here have been in basic plumage.



**Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee**

**Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of**

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

Date of Sighting: **13 May 1994 to 13 May 1994**

Location: **PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK**

County: **ERIE**

Observer(s): **Jerry McWilliams**

Date of Submission: **1994**

Submitted by: **Jerry McWilliams**

Written Description: **YES**      Photo: **YES**      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							
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>2</b>					
<b>DECISION</b>	X							

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

*F. C. Haas*

Date:

*3-31-95*