

009-05-1994

PORC

## Eared Grebe

*Podiceps nigricollis*

Location: Presque Isle State Park

Date: October 27, 1994

Time: 10:00 to 10:30 AM

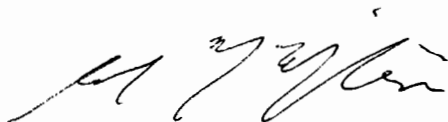
Weather: Variably cloudy, wind northwesterly

Observer: Jerry McWilliams

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

Details of sighting and description of bird: I was birding with Geoff Robinson at the north pier when Geoff spotted a lone grebe about 150 yards from the light house. I located the bird and readily identified it as an Eared Grebe in basic plumage. The grebe appeared to be about the same size as a Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*). The head was small and round on a relatively slim neck. I found this character to be quite valuable in separating Horned Grebe and Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) from this species. When Eared Grebes are facing the observer the width of the head shows to be only slightly wider than the neck, whereas Horned grebes facing the observer show heads distinctly wider than the neck. This width of the grebes head matched that of Eared Grebe. The central crown was prominently peaked. The bill was short and was very thin throughout its length. The face was dusky with a pale vertical bar behind the ear. The throat was pale, the back of the neck was dark gray, and the foreneck was pale gray. The back of the bird was dark gray and humped which gave the bird the appearance of riding high on the water. Unfortunately the grebe was too far away to get identifiable photographs.

I have seen many Eared Grebes in this plumage that has in recent years become annual at Presque Isle State Park.



**Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee**

**Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of**

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

Date of Sighting: **27 October 1994 to 27 October 1994**

Location: **PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK**

County: **ERIE**

Observer(s): **Jerry McWilliams**

Date of Submission: **1995**

Submitted by: **Jerry McWilliams**

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					
S. Feldstein			X					
<b>TOTALS</b>			7					
<b>DECISION</b>			X					

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

*J. C. Haas*

Date:

9-19-95