

009-01-1998

# SENECA ROCKS AUDUBON SOCIETY BIRD SIGHTING DOCUMENTATION GUIDE

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of rare or unusual birds. It may be used flexibly and need not be used at all except as a guide. Attach additional sheets as necessary. PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. The following checklist can be used to remind yourself of items that you want to include in this report. Not all of these points will be seen, nor are they all necessary to correctly identify a species, but not including something you saw lessens the value of your documentation. PLEASE REPORT WHAT WAS SEEN, NOT WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SEEN.

### SIZE, SHAPE, AND PLUMAGE DESCRIPTION:

- Give size compared to a common bird
- Shape ( warbler, thrush, hawk, etc.)
- Head: colors and pattern
- Eye: color, ring, stripe, lore, brow
- Bill: length, color
- Legs: color, length, toes (number, type)
- Upperparts: nape (neck), back, rump
- Tail: colors, shape, pattern, length
- Underparts: throat, breast, belly, flanks, vent
- Wings: colors, wingbars, length, wing linings, shape
- Parts of bird that couldn't be seen

### BEHAVIOR:

- Posture
- Feeding method
- Flight pattern
- Vocalization
- Preening or sleeping
- Other species present
- Interactions with other birds
- Nesting (building, brooding, etc.)

### NUMBER, SEX, AGE:

- Number of birds
- Sex by plumage or behavior
- Age by plumage or behavior

### LOCATION:

- Place name (town, park, SGL, etc.)
- County and State
- Habitat (field, woods, water, plants, etc.)

### CONDITIONS:

- Time of day
- Temperature
- Sky/cloud cover
- Precipitation/snow cover
- Water (depth, waves, % ice)
- Wind (speed, direction)
- Moon phase
- Sun (location in relation to you and bird)
- Length of sighting
- Distance to bird
- Optics (binos, scope, power of each)
- Experience with this species, years birding
- How were similar species eliminated?
- Field guide used (during and after sighting)
- Was description written from notes made during observation, notes made after observation, or memory? Was field guide used prior to writing field notes?
- Other observers (are they reporting?)
- Sketch or photograph (sketches, no matter how basic, are extremely useful)

SPECIES EARED Grebe DATE SIGHTED 3-24-98

### SIZE, SHAPE, AND PLUMAGE DESCRIPTION:

Breeding Plumage  
 whitish rump  
 Very peaked or domed head  
 EAR Tufts were below forehead  
 Thin bill  
 Dark neck to the waterline - no reddish plumage  
 bird was pitched on water with rump inclined up.  
 Easily distinguished from the 11 horned grebes it was with

The bird was rounder looking on H<sub>2</sub>O when compared to horned grebe, horned grebes have a flatter head and tufts that go above forehead

BEHAVIOR:

Swimming + diving with 11 horned grebes

NUMBER, SEX, AND AGE:

1 Breeding plumage

LOCATION:

Kable Lake near Clarion Co. Post Ramp.

CONDITIONS, TIME, WEATHER, OPTICS, EXPERIENCE:

Clear sky, slight wind, smoothish surface I saw the bird about 6:15 pm with Kowa TSN-2 + Leica 8x42. The bird was too far for a picture and was moving further away, but still in Clarion Co. I wonder if this could be the same bird from last year.

NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, DATE OF WRITE-UP:

3-24-98

John Fedak  
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009-01-1998

## Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

### Voting Tabulation - Round One

Species: Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*)

Date of Sighting: 24 March 1998 to 24 March 1998

Location: KAHLE LAKE

County: CLARION

Observer(s): John Fedak

Date of Submission: 1998

Submitted by: John Fedak

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

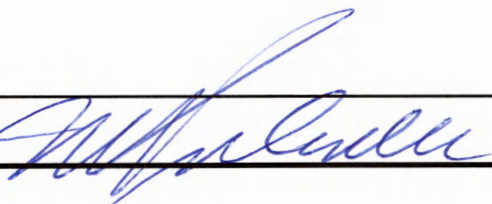
Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
D. Couchman			X					
T. Floyd								X
P. Hess			X					
R. Ickes			X					
J. McWilliams			X					
B. Reid				X				
P. Rodewald			X					
TOTALS			5	1				1
DECISION			X					

Comments: 5-1-1

Signature (Secretary):



Date:

9/19/98