









Eared Grebe

009 - 01 - 1999

Podiceps nigricollis

Centre Furnace Pond, 30 January 1999

Photos and text by Mark A. McConaughy

An Eared Grebe has been at Centre Furnace Pond, located about a quarter mile northeast of State College along the eastern side of Route 26. It is about 0.75 miles south of the U.S. Route 322 bypass that loops north of State College. The remains of the old Centre Iron Furnace is across Route 26 from the pond. A light is located at that spot. Turn to the east across a small, one lane, wooden bridge across the creek that comes out of the pond dam and follow that road around to the pond. Good views of the Eared Grebe can be obtained from the east side of the pond.

I visited the pond on 30 January 1999 and took some slides of the Eared Grebe using a Nikon 6006 with a 500mm Spiratone mirror reflex lens. I then scanned some of the better shots for this report. All of the images were enlarged during the scanning to show diagnostic features. This has resulted in some degradation of the image sharpness, but a 1:1 reproduction would have resulted in a very small image. I think the tradeoff is worth it. The Eared Grebe was in winter or basic plumage.



This photo shows the Eared Grebe's right side. The dark ear cover or "flap" is noticeable. It also shows the "dirty" or "dusky" neck typical of winter plumage Eared Grebes. A white chin spot is also quite noticeable. Less noticeable is the lighter crescent that goes around the black ear cover. It has a red eye and thin bill. A typical Horned Grebe would have a white check patch and the neck would also be white or much clearer looking than what is displayed by this bird.

This is a view of the left side of the Eared Grebe. It also shows the dark ear "flap", white chin and thin bill characteristic of winter plumage Eared Grebes.





This is another view of the right side of the bird. The dirty or "dusky" neck typical of winter plumage Eared Grebes is really noticeable in this photo.

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Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation- Round One

Species: Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*)

Date of Sighting: 24 January 1999 to 30 January 1999

Location: CENTRE FURNACE POND

County: CENTRE

Observer(s): Mark McConaughy, Stephen Repasky
Rick Wiltraut

Date of Submission: 1999

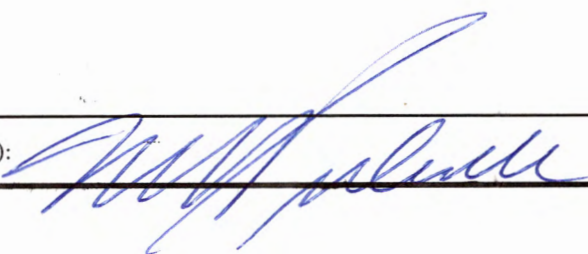
Submitted by: Mark McConaughy, Stephen Repasky, Rick Wiltraut

Written Description YES PHOTO YES 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	6							1
DECISION	X							

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):



Date:

9/19/00