

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>
Observer Name	Tom Johnson
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Address	Street Address: 24 Meadowood Drive City: Hummelstown State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 17036 Country: United States
Other observers who saw the bird	Cameron Rutt, Doug Gochfeld, George Armistead, Frank Windfelder, Todd Fellenbaum, others
Species (Common Name)	Leach's Storm-Petrel
Species (Scientific Name)	Oceanodroma leucorhoa
Subspecies (if known)	
Number of individuals	6
Have you submitted this to eBird?	Yes
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	
Observation Date and Time	10-30-2012 7:00 AM
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Philadelphia
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Pennypack on the Delaware
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.025197,-75.0129318
Habitat	river
Distance to bird	75-300 meters
Viewing conditions	intermittent rain, fully overcast, somewhat windy
Optical equipment used	Swarovski scope, Leica Ultravid
Description	These were sooty gray, long-winged storm-petrels with long

white rump patches bisected by dusky lines parallel to the long axis of the body (all birds showed this to some degree), and forked tails. The white rumps appeared to rest on the top of the birds, and did not wrap around to the sides of the body much at all. The birds showed bright, broad buffy-white upperwing covert bars that extended most of the way to the leading edge of the wings. At least a few dangled their legs down, and we could see that they were relatively short and did not project past the tip of the tail.

Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)

We watched the storm-petrels fly up and down river with bounding, nighthawk-like flight, often coming up fairly high off the water. Some birds sat on the water's surface and floated downriver.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

Rump pattern, degree of upperwing contrast, and tail fork is diagnostic. I recognized these by size and flight style and didn't really have to eliminate other species.

Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:

We had at minimum 6 birds. George Armistead (who stayed at the site longer than we did) suggested there were upwards of 20 individuals here. The photos show at least 2 different individuals (deduced by photo timestamps).

Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)

Yes - we had excellent views and obtained diagnostic photos.

During

None

After

None

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings

[_MG_8425.jpg](#)
[_MG_8489.jpg](#)
[_MG_8509.jpg](#)
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