

## PA Rare Bird Report

<b>Submission Date</b>	2020-07-31 12:15:13
<b>Observer's Name</b>	Steven Throne
<b>E-mail</b>	sthrone@earthlink.net
<b>Observer's Address</b>	Hatboro Pennsylvania 19040 United States
<b>Names of additional observers</b>	Steven Throne
<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	Brown Booby
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>
<b>Number of individuals</b>	1
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	06-13-2020 4:10 PM
<b>Did you submit this sighting to eBird?</b>	Yes
<b>County</b>	Bucks
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	Tullytown
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	Van Sciver Lake
<b>Habitat</b>	Fresh water lake, located close to Delaware River
<b>Distance to bird</b>	50 feet
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	Clear day, bright, excellent viewing conditions, plenty of time to study the bird
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	Panasonic Digital Camera
<b>Description</b>	<p>I was fishing on the lake when I noticed the bird floating nearby. It appeared slightly larger than other birds that would see more commonly on the lake. Coloring was rather plain, but the most distinctive feature was a light color bill which extended into the face and a dark bluish patch around the eye. The bill was long and pronounced. Also noticed long tail raised above the water.</p>
<b>Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)</b>	<p>The bird was floating calmly on the water and allowed me to observe it for quite a while. At one point another boat passed by and the bird took off and flew just above the water surface for about 100 yards before settling again. I drove my boat nearby slowly to get a closer look and the bird remained calm and allowed me to pass within about 50 feet. The bird remained in the area when I left.</p>

**Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)**

The two species I thought the bird most resembled were cormorants and loons. Cormorants are especially common in the area. However, the bill shape was clearly different from a cormorant. The bill was long and tapered to a sharp point, whereas cormorant bills typically are hooked or flared near the end. The bill was closer to a loon, but I felt the body was larger and sat higher in the water than a loon. I was unable to identify the bird at the time but captured clear pictures. When I referred to my field guide later I found it was a perfect match for a Brown Booby.

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

After reporting on Ebird I found that there was another Brown Booby sighted on the same lake several years ago by multiple people. I suspect that the bird may have traveled up the Delaware river.

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

Yes - I was able to capture clear pictures which display the identifying characteristics

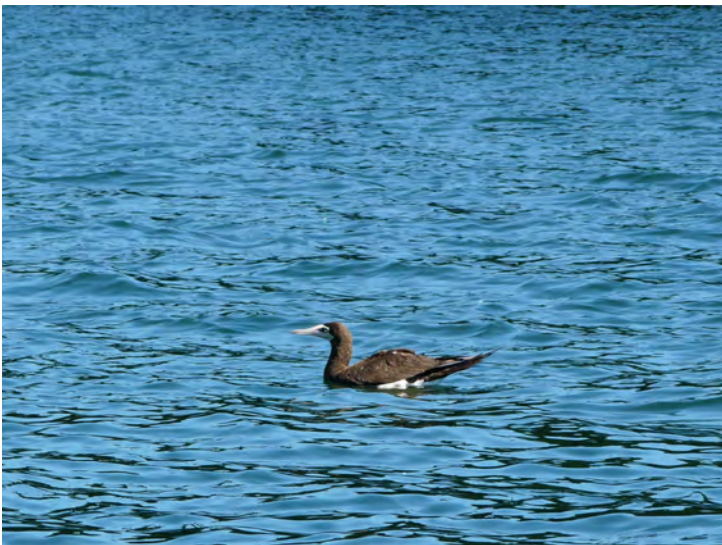
**After**

Kaufman Field Guide to Birds of North America

**Supporting evidence (check all that apply)**

Photograph

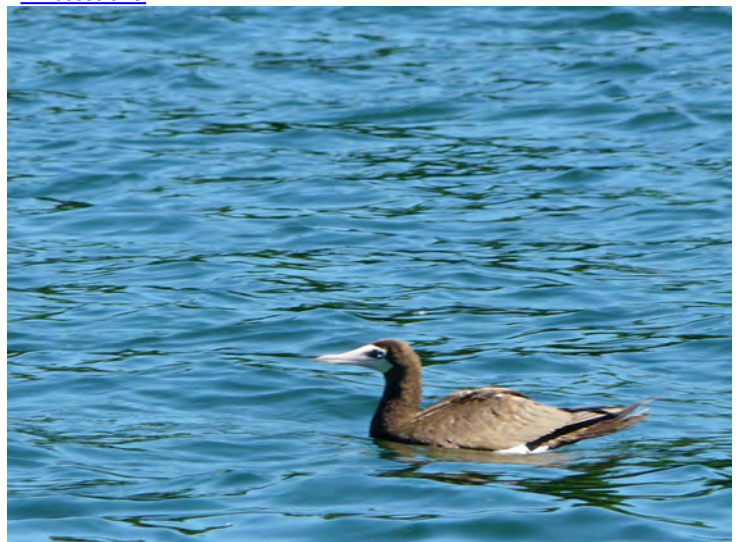
**Upload images, audio, video or drawings**



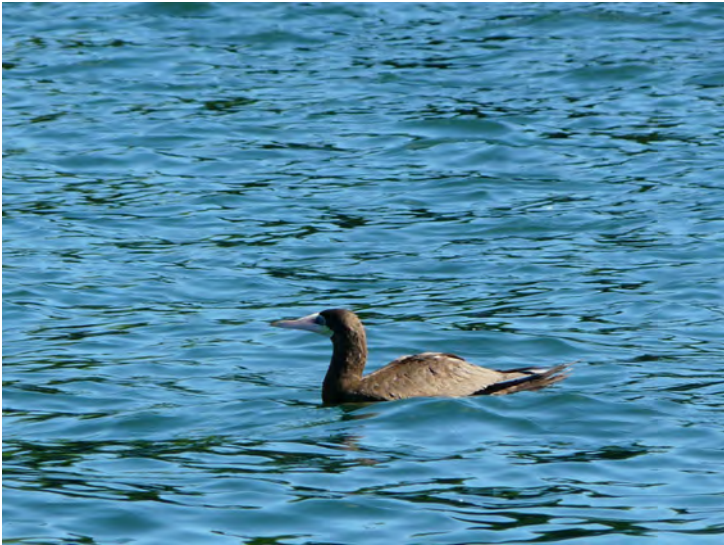
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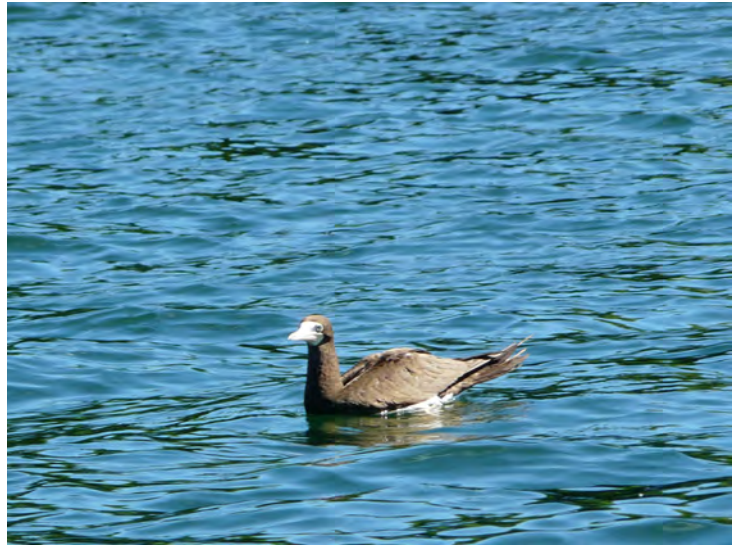
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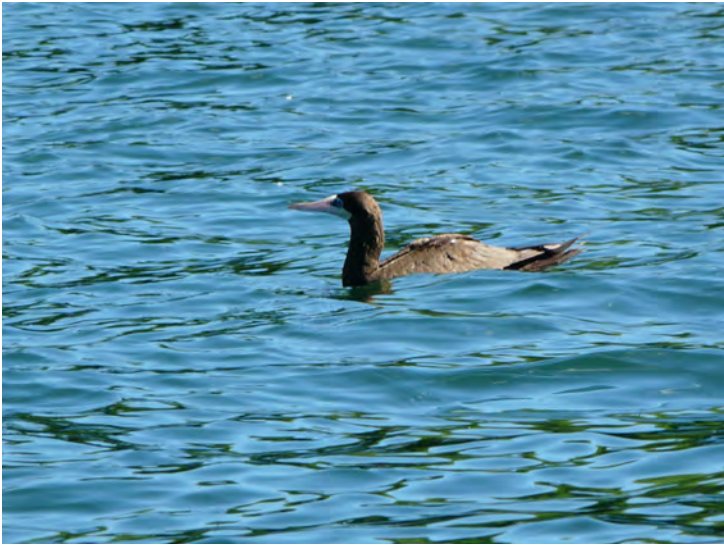
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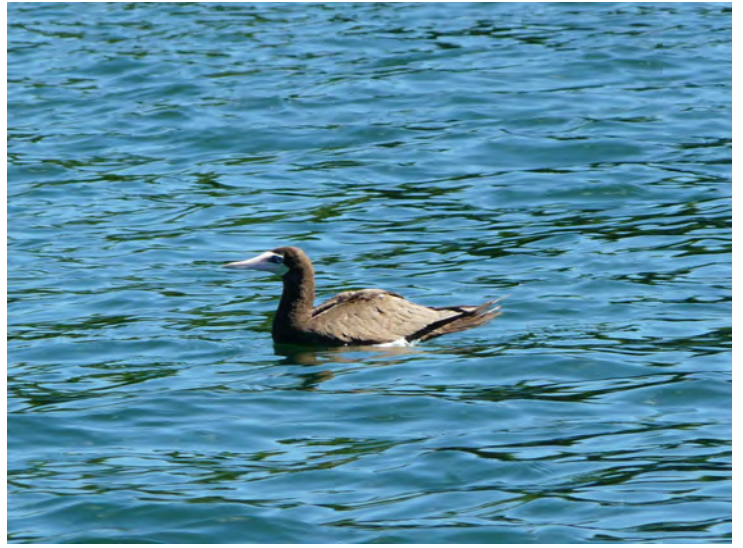
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