

066A-01-1998

*(e-mail report by Mark Williams)*

WHITE PELICAN SP. -- 14 March 1998

Lake Arthur, Moraine State Park, Butler County

Observer: Mark Williams  
208 Country Club Drive, Butler PA 16002

Snowing to partly sunny, 30F, some frozen areas

Unquestionably a pelican, with large head held back over body on relatively thick neck, and huge orange bill. It was white with black wing tips. Being from the south, I have seen many pelicans throughout my life and would not mistake one for anything else.

The bird was first seen over the lake about 50 yards from the dam and flying towards the dam. Approximately over the dam and about 50 yards from the observer, it veered away and flew along the line of the dam, which would have taken it over the bridge over Rt. 422.

Unfortunately I did not look for field marks to distinguish American White Pelican from an Eastern White Pelican of Europe. At its closest point to the observer, about 50 yards, it would have been easy to determine how far into the secondaries the black went, and also probably to see the feathering around the eye.

The bird was observed with the naked eye and with Celestron 9.5x44 ED binoculars.

## Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

### Voting Tabulation - Round One

Species: White Pelican species (Pelicanus)

Date of Sighting: 14 March 1998 to 14 March 1998

Location: MORaine STATE PARK

County: BUTLER

Observer(s): Mark Williams


Date of Submission: 1998

Submitted by: Mark Williams

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					2
DECISION			X					

Comments: 5/0/2

Signature (Secretary): 

Date: 9/18/00