

## PA Rare Bird Report

<b>Submission Date</b>	2013-11-11 16:22:13
<b>Observer's Name</b>	Stephen J. Smith
<b>E-mail</b>	sjsmith18960@msn.com
<b>Phone</b>	215-257-9580
<b>Observer's Address</b>	Street Address: 543 Peabody Court City: Sellersville State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 18960 Country: United States
<b>Names of additional observers</b>	None
<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	American White Pelican
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	Pelecanus erythrorhynchos
<b>Number of individuals</b>	1
<b>Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)</b>	Unknown
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	11-3-2013 10:00 AM
<b>Did you submit this sighting to eBird?</b>	Yes
<b>Link to eBird checklist</b>	<a href="http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S15553054">http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S15553054</a>
<b>County</b>	Bucks
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	Tullytown Boro
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	Lower Van Sciver Lake, from Bordentown Road
<b>GPS coordinates of sighting</b>	N40.141025 W74.798355
<b>Habitat</b>	Man made lake
<b>Distance to bird</b>	1st sighting - 100 feet in the air, 2nd sighting - about 2000 feet
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	Cloudy and windy
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	1st sighting - Nikon Monarch5's 10x42, 2nd sighting Pentax 80MM telescope w/20x-60x lens
<b>Description</b>	In flight - Very large Pelican. All white except for black primaries

and outer secondaries. Hugh forward pointing yellow bill.  
Sitting -Swan sized Pelican. Looked all white except for the hugh yellow bill.

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

ist sighting - The Pelican was sailing in the sky with a great number of gulls. They may have been put in the air by a boat. This area with its trash dump is the winter home to 10's of thousands of gulls.

2nd sighting - The Pelican was sitting , or standing, in shallow water at the edge of the lake. It was on the opposite side from where I was looking.

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

I can't loxate a good picture of a European Great White Pelican, but the ones that I see don't show a clean seperation between the black and white secondaries like this bird had.

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

I wasn't sure how many Pelicans I saw. I saw the sitting bird about 20 minutes after I saw the sailing bird. I was told that a local birder saw 2 pelicans the day before my sighting. I have been birding for many years and have seen many White Pelicans previously in Florida and Utah. I also have 3 other Delaware Valley sightings-Brigantine, NJ, Taylor's Gut, DE and Thousand Acre Marsh, DE.

The photo was digiscoped, so the picture is not very good.

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

Yes. Ir's almost impossible to mistake a White Pelican for any other bird.

**During**

Sibley's & Nat. Geographic

**After**

Same 2 plus Google images

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

Photograph

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



[DSC02494.JPG](#)

**Click to edit**

PORC-webform00173