

PA Rare Bird Report

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| Submission Date | 2018-09-18 14:46:34 |
| Observer's Name | Timothy Becker |
| E-mail | tjbecker81@aol.com |
| Phone | 717-469-0211 |
| Observer's Address | 10283 Jonestown Rd Grantville Pa 17028 United States |
| Names of additional observers | Kathy Becker |
| Species (Common Name) | Brown Pelican |
| Species (Scientific Name) | <i>Pelicanus occidentalis</i> |
| Number of individuals | 1 |
| Observation Date and Time | 08-11-2018 1:50 PM |
| Did you submit this sighting to eBird? | Yes |
| Link to eBird checklist | https://ebird.org/pa/view/checklist/S47788253 |
| County | Bucks |
| Location (City, Borough, Township) | Quakertown |
| Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road) | Lake Nockamixon State Park Marina |
| GPS coordinates of sighting | 40.469195, -75.224420 |
| Habitat | Large Lake |
| Distance to bird | 100 yards |
| Viewing conditions | overcast |
| Optical equipment used | Vortex scope and Nikon 8x10 binoculars |
| Description | Brown and white pelican |
| Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) | Observed both flying and perched on a buoy in the marina area |

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

Brown and white coloring separated from white pelican

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

We were following up on numerous previous eBird reports

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

Yes, imistakable

During

none

After

none

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings



[brown.pelican.PNG](#)

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PA Rare Bird Report

| | |
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| Submission Date | 2018-10-12 23:01:47 |
| Observer's Name | Michael David |
| E-mail | michaeldavid@gmail.com |
| Observer's Address | United States |
| Species (Common Name) | Brown Pelican |
| Species (Scientific Name) | <i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i> |
| Number of individuals | 1 |
| Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known) | Adult |
| Observation Date and Time | 08-09-2018 4:40 PM |
| Did you submit this sighting to eBird? | Yes |
| Link to eBird checklist | https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S47748217 |
| County | Bucks |
| Location (City, Borough, Township) | Bedminster Twp |
| Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road) | Nockzmixon State Park Marina |
| GPS coordinates of sighting | 40.469352, -75.224875 |
| Habitat | open water |
| Distance to bird | 100 m |
| Viewing conditions | Sunny |
| Description | Very large distinctive bird. Very long straight bill with flexible pouch attached below. Long neck, large body and large webbed feet. Huge wingspan; short tail. Grayish brown back, wings, and tail; brown without gray tones on underparts and neck. Crisp white stripe separating face and bill pouch from neck and covering top of head. |
| Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) | Seen flying around the lake, swimming, and resting/preening on a dock. |
| Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others) | Plumage entirely different than the white and black of American White Pelican. No other species similar in size and structure. |

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

Yes, diagnostic photos taken

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings



[Brown Pelican, Bucks, PA 1.JPG](#)



[Brown Pelican, Bucks, PA 2.JPG](#)



[Brown Pelican, Bucks, PA 3.JPG](#)



[Brown Pelican, Bucks, PA 4.JPG](#)



[Brown Pelican, Bucks, PA 5.JPG](#)

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PA Rare Bird Report

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| Submission Date | 2018-11-15 11:38:52 |
| Observer's Name | August Mirabella |
| E-mail | augustmirabella@aol.com |
| Phone | 2153680594 |
| Observer's Address | 1443 Wheaton Lane North Wales PA 19454 United States |
| Names of additional observers | August Mirabella |
| Species (Common Name) | Brown Pelican |
| Species (Scientific Name) | <i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i> |
| Number of individuals | 1 |
| Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known) | Adult per Peter Pyle |
| Observation Date and Time | 08-08-2018 8:50 AM |
| Did you submit this sighting to eBird? | Yes |
| Link to eBird checklist | https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S47730211 |
| County | Bucks |
| Location (City, Borough, Township) | Haycock Twp. |
| Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road) | Nockamixon State Park |
| GPS coordinates of sighting | 40.4693518,-75.2248746 |
| Habitat | Lake. Sitting on marina docks a lot of the time |
| Distance to bird | 200 ft. |
| Viewing conditions | sunny -lighting good |
| Optical equipment used | Leica APO77 scope, Zeiss 7X42 Bins |

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| Description | <p>Instead of writing the obvious, I am putting info I got from Tony Leukering that maybe is more relevant. It is what I entered in eBird.</p> <p>Since Birds of N. Amer. Online said it takes 3 to 5 yrs. to become adult, I asked experts to help with aging this bird. Per Peter Pyle, "Full on definitive adult. At minimum A4Y now but probably A5Y or older. All feathers definitive. The primaries have three waves going, p1 new, p2-p7g, p8-p10, the last basic (not juv). Secondaries all definitive basic as well with s3-s4 older, which I think indicates at least 4 prior molt remigial molt cycles and A5Y. The wing coverts get narrower and more pointed with age in these, and also gain the silver bloom. Juvenile wing coverts and broader and browner, lack silver, and any left on a TY now would be trashed."</p> <p>I also asked if subspecies could be determined. Tony Leukering said, "There are records of Pacific Ocean BRPEs in the Atlantic basin, so it comes down to how uncomfortable you feel with the assumption of subsp. However, I think that the blackish bill should rule out Pacific birds. Unfortunately, and particularly since the bird is a bit out-of-place, one might be hard-pressed to prove that it wasn't referable to eBird's "Brown Pelican (Southern)."</p> |
| Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) | Loafing, preening, and occasionally fishing |
| Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others) | As far as I know, no other pelican that looks like brown has occurred to be considered. |
| Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it: | Found by Paul Teese this day and last report 8/11 in eBird. |
| Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not) | Yes, photos |
| During | None |
| After | Sibley & Birds of N. Amer. Online |
| Supporting evidence (check all that apply) | Photograph |
| Click to edit | PORC-webform00052 |