

068-02-2001

RARE BIRD REPORT – GREAT CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)
Green Lane Reservoir 4 November 2001 – 8 January 2002

While birding at Walt Road, Green Lane Reservoir on the morning of 4 November, 2001, George Franchois informed me that he had seen a Great Cormorant there a few minutes prior. I joined George and we studied the bird for over 30 minutes as it perched on a rocky peninsula. I concurred that it was indeed a Great Cormorant based on the following.

Weather conditions: sunny, clear, mild

Date and Time: 4 November, 2001 0800-0835 hrs.

Distance from bird : 150 meters

Bird/sun orientation : bird was NW of observers, sun directly behind us

Equipment: GAF 8x binoculars, 20-60x scope
KFC 7x binoculars, 20x scope

Description of Bird: The bird was obviously a cormorant based on its size, shape, bill shape, webbed feet, etc. Back- dark glossy brown/black
Head, neck from above, tail – same color as back .
Bare parts- bill large gray/white in color. Lores-yellow/orange . Legs/feet- dark brown
Throat – white
Neck from below – heavily streaked with medium brown
Belly – white from mid breast to cloacal area

Comparison with similar species: Not possible on 4 November, but on subsequent dates (November 8, December 11, 14,15) I was able to view the bird perched on a steel cable with an immature Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) at the GLR dam breast.

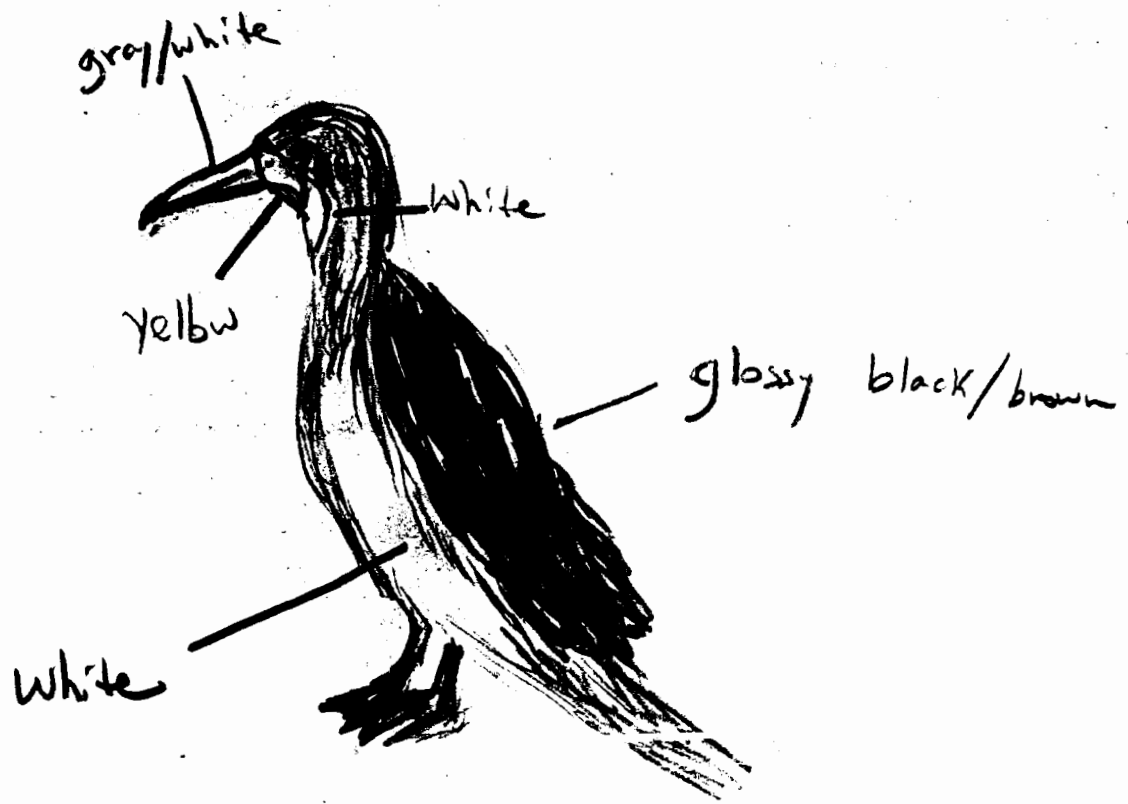
On these occasions I observed that the Great Cormorant was perhaps 10-15% larger than the latter bird. It had an obviously longer, heavier bill than *P. auritus*, and had a white belly (compared with brown on the Double-crested). (See sketches enclosed –2)

The Great Cormorant was last seen on 8 January, 2002 near the GLR dam. (KFC).

I am familiar with Great Cormorants from GLR (May 1997+, and November 27 , 2000)
In addition, I have seen them numerous times between November and March at Barnegat Light, Manasquan Inlet, and Cape May Point, NJ and Lewes Delaware.

Original observer- George A. Franchois. **Other observers:** Kevin Crilley Steve Blank, Gary L. Freed, Ken Reiker, and probably others .

Submitted by : Kevin F. Crilley
PO Box 100
Sumneytown, PA 18084
(215) 234-6867
great-gray@netcarrier.com



Great cormorant
GHR 4 NOV '01

0800-0830 hrs

by Kevin F. Crolley

larger, more massive bill
gray/white

(Not to scale)

white

10-15% larger
than DC.

Orange/Yellow

white

white

dk brown

(Not to scale)

Gr. Cormorant 11/8/01

w/ DC Cormorant

by Kevin F. Crolley

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round One

Species: Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)

Date of Sighting: 4 November 2001 to 8 January 2002

Location: GREEN LANE RESERVOIR

County: MONTGOMERY

Observer(s): George Franchois, Kevin Crilley and multiple observers.

Date of Submission: 2002

Submitted by: Kevin Crilley

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

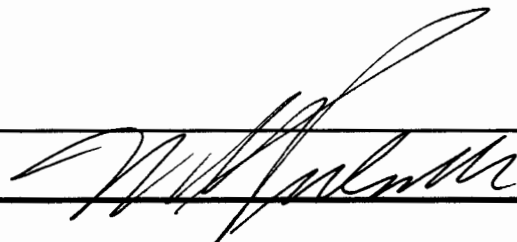
Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
G. Armistead			X					
D. Heathcote			X					
P. Hess			X					
J. Stanley			X					
E. Witmer			X					
R. Leberman			X					
M. Sharp			X					
TOTALS			7					
DECISION			X					

Comments: 7/0

Signature (Secretary):



Date: 1/12/03