

July 6, 2008

John Fedak
26 Race St.
Bradford, PA 16701

Thank you for your submitted report of an Anhinga at Kinzua Dam, Warren County, PA on September 12, 2007.

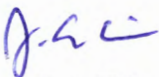
After two rounds of voting by the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee, the report was not accepted as a Class III record. Only five of the seven members voted in favor of accepting the report.

One dissenting voter was concerned with the description of the tail pattern. Many on the committee also felt the reference that the observer had not seen Cormorants soar before was troublesome in the report. Actually, Cormorants will soar on occasion.

Claims made in the report indicating an adult male and immature Anhinga would have a light head, neck and breast, are incorrect. An adult male would be dark in this area. If correct, this record would be most certainly a female or immature bird.

Thank you for taking the time to further Pennsylvania Ornithological records.

Sincerely,



J. Eric Witmer
Chairman: Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Record # 074-01-2007

PENNSYLVANIA RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

This form is presented as a convenience and guide. It can be used if desired, but is not necessary for submitting a report. Species requiring documentation are those on the Review List or not on the Official List of Birds of Pennsylvania. Send documentation to:

Nick Pulcinella, Secretary
Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee
613 Howard Ave.
West Chester, PA 19380
nickpulcinella@comcast.net

SPECIES (common and scientific name) Anhinga (Anhinga anhinga)
Subspecies, if known _____

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 SEX(ES) unsure, either adult ♂ or juvenile
unknown

AGE(S) AND PLUMAGE(S) (e.g. immature; adult in breeding plumage; year for gulls; basic or alternate if you prefer those terms; state of molt if applicable): either an adult male due to light head, neck, breast or a juvenile for some reason

DATE OF OBSERVATION 9/12/07 TIME ~7:10am

LOCATION (city, borough, township) Warren County

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) Kinzua Dam at dam off Rt 59

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name John Fedak
Address 26 Race St
City Bradford State Pa ZIP 16701
e-mail (optional) jfedak@att.net phone (optional) 814 362 1052
bb.net

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you): None

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) dammed lake/river surrounded by forested hills/mts.

DISTANCE TO BIRD At first about 60 yards

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) sun was behind me to right, most area around had cloudy fog - sun was strong here though

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED leica 8x42 binoculars

DESCRIPTION (Include as much detail as you observed - size relative to other species present; "jizz"= e.g. posture, body shape, and proportions; colors and patterns of plumage; bill, eye, and leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual): longer "stretched out" look, smaller wingspan than the 2 Turkey vultures it was soaring with. wingspan was more like a red-tailed hawk. wings seemed to be pointed. The head, neck and part of breast were a tan color. The rest of the bird was dark - very dark brown or black. In the sun the bill was yellow + there appeared to be a small lighter band at the end of the tail. The tail started out thin near the body and gradually fanned a little. when soaring, the wings were held flat like an eagle, but when flying it had strong wingbeats - from breast to tip of belly. The bird kept thinning out but the bill ended in a very sharp point. The neck seemed straight but could have had a slight 's' to it as the area by the breast was thicker
(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

BEHAVIOR (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) The bird was soaring with 2 TV's in morning thermal and then flapped past them over the hill.

VOCALIZATIONS None

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph Video recording Audio recording Drawing

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:

Name Jana Fedak

Address same

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

e-mail (optional) _____ phone (optional) _____

Please include a copy of the photograph or recording with your report, and accompany it with a complete written documentation if the identification is obvious to you. If you made a drawing, please include it.

IF THIS IS A DEAD BIRD:

General condition _____

If collected (by permit), location of specimen if known _____

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others) color of neck and sharpness of bill as well as length of tail separated it from Double-crested cormorant. The bird flapped strong but it also soared - I have never seen a cormorant soar

DISCUSSION - Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it: I have seen Anhingas in Florida and although I have never before seen an Anhinga soaring - or flying for that matter, I have seen pictures. I know male Anhingas have light heads necks into the breast, but so do juveniles. The bird was dark - it didn't give the impression of a juvenile, but it would make more sense if it was

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES I have seen both, I have lots of flying experience with D.C. Cormorants, none with Anhingas

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? (why or why not) 100% - coloration, shape of body + bill, elongated look

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation NONE

After observation None yet, but when I am done

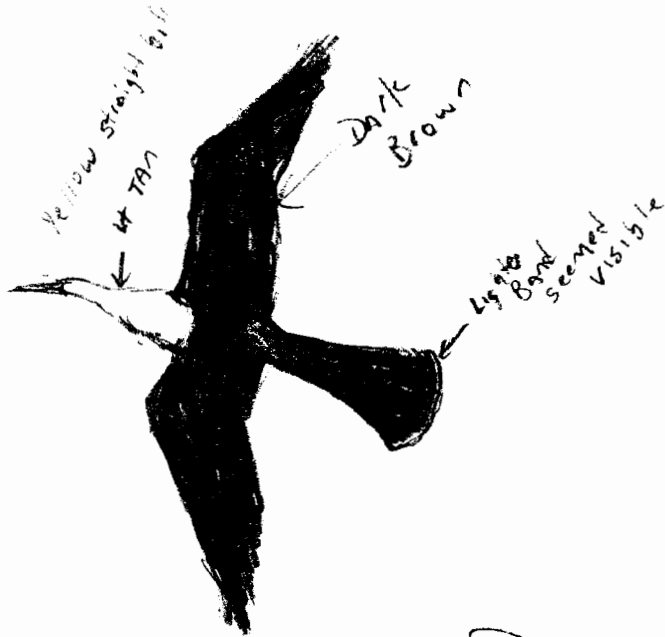
DATE OF THIS REPORT: 7:50 AM 9/12/07

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER Jana Fedak

I will look up the scientific name + then look in the books and on the internet.

Not a good drawing, but
should at least give the
impression.

9/12/07
7:35 AM



J. Q. Kuhn

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round Two

Species: Anhinga (Anhinga anhinga)

Date of Sighting: 9 September 2007 to 9 September 2007

Location: KINZUA DAM

County : WARREN

Observer(s): John Fedak

Date of Submission: 2007

Submitted by: John Fedak

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
R. Wiltraut			X					
A. Guarente			X					
T. Johnson					X			
B. Coulter			X					
E. Witmer			X					
J. Heller					X			
G. Malosh			X					
TOTALS								
DECISION					X			

Comments:

5/2

Signature (Secretary)

Date: