



089-01-2006

Pennsylvania Rare Bird Report Form

Species (common & scientific): Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*
Number of Individuals: 1 **Sex(es):** Unknown
Age(s) & Plumage(s): Age unknown and the bird was in "Adult Breeding" plumage
Date Seen: April 13, 2006 **Time:** 2:00 PM
Where Seen (Town/County) Tullytown, Bucks County, PA:
Exact Location Waste Management Corp. Boat Basin Park

Observer Reporting:

Name: Howard B. Eskin, Ph.D.
Address: 670 Whittaker Way, Harleysville, PA 19438
E-mail: <hbekin@voicenet.com>
Telephone (optional): 215-256-4290
Other Observers (Only those who saw & identified the bird with you): none

Distance to Bird: 20 feet
Viewing Conditions (Sky, weather, position of sun relative to you): Sunny; 70 degrees F.; sun overhead and slightly behind me.

Optical Equipment Used: Nikon D200 with Tamron 200-400mm f 5.6 LD (IF) Lens

Habitat:

Description (only what you observed; size relative to other species present; posture, body shape & proportions; colors & patterns of plumage; bill, eye, & leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual): Bird (about 20 inches tall) was among a mixed group of gulls (i.e., Great Black-backed, Herring and Ring-billed.) A small flock of Fish Crows was nearby.

Behavior (Be as specific as possible about what the bird was doing): Bird seemed to be feeding (picking up bugs in grass.) It was then chased off by the small flock of Fish Crows. They all flew out over the pond for a quarter of a mile and after a few minutes the egret came back and landed about twenty feet in front of me. It then proceeded to walk back and forth picking up debris and bugs. I was able to get over 100 photographs of the bird including a couple of flight shots when it was first chased off by the crows. I left it after about twenty minutes so it would not be disturbed any further.

Vocalizations:

Supporting Evidence if Any (include with report):

Photo: Yes **Video Recording:** **Audio Recording:** **Drawing:**
Name, Address, e-mail, telephone (optional) of photographer, etc. Same as reporter

Separation from Similar Species (How you eliminated others): I have seen and photographed Great Egrets (size), juvenile Little Blue Egrets (size and pale green leg color) as well as Snowy Egrets (black legs and yellow feet) before.

Discussion This was a very neat bird!

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Previous Experience with this and/or Similar Species: I have seen and photographed this species in the Spring of 2005 near Stone Harbor, New Jersey while with August Mirabella of North Wales, PA.

Are you positive of your ID? (Why or why not): I am positive of the ID!

References:

During Observation:

After Observation: *"The SIBLEY Guide to Birds"*

Date of report: April 16, 2006

Signature of Observer:

Howard B. Eskin, Ph.D.

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Cattle Egret (Bulbulcis ibis)

Date of Sighting: 13 April 2006 to 13 April 2006

Location: TULLYTOWN

County : BUCKS

Observer(s): Howard Eskin

Date of Submission: 2006

Submitted by: Howard Eskin

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

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							
J. Stanley	X							
E. Witmer	X							
J. Heller	X							
G. Malosh	X							
TOTALS	7							
DECISION	X							

Comments:

7/10

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

4/16/06