

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2018-06-17 21:02:44
Observer's Name	Todd Watkins
E-mail	toddawatkins@gmail.com
Phone	6109673872
Observer's Address	56 W Market St. #6 Bethlehem PA 18018 United States
Species (Common Name)	Cattle Egret
Species (Scientific Name)	Bubulcus ibis
Number of individuals	1
Observation Date and Time	05-07-2018 5:50 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S45427098
County	Northampton
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Lower Nazareth Township
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	4294 Christian Springs Rd., Pond, Nazareth, PA 18064
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.722751, -75.329523
Habitat	Long grassy rise next to marshy flooded muddy area/pond
Distance to bird	100 yards
Viewing conditions	Sunny, clear, warm, still
Optical equipment used	Leicia 8x32, and Nikon Fieldscope ED 60mm spotting scope
Description	Fairly unmistakable. Clear egret or heron. Smallish, stubby legs. Mostly white; buffy yellow-golden cap and nape; dull yellowish legs and feet; Mid-sized yellow bill; yellow eye and lores. Gape ended about even with rear of eye.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	Methodically and calmly feeding in grasses on slope above a marshy flooded area/farm pond. Slowly walking through tall grasses.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

Mainly white, clear heron, separates from all but a few options. Much smaller and much shorter, and dull yellowish, legs than Great Egret or white form of Great Blue would have been; buffy cap and nape, thicker, yellow bill, bulkier head shape, stubbier yellowish legs, separate from Little Blue Heron or Snowy Egret (or Little Egret or Intermediate Egret for that matter).

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

First found and reported on e-bird same morning by Adam Miller.

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

Yes, quite familiar with all the white herons and egrets, both here and in Europe and Africa. Pretty unmistakable this one. Photos show all key diagnostics. Habitat consistent with species.

During

Sibley's Eastern; Sibley's app. BirdsEye app photos

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings



[2018-05-07 17.48.47.jpg](#)



[2018-05-07 17.48.49.jpg](#)



[2018-05-07 17.49.34.jpg](#)









