PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2015-12-11 21:30:42
Observer's Name	Ian Gardner
E-mail	gardnie07@gmail.com
Phone	717-350-5815
Observer's Address	Street Address: 8670 Presidents Drive City: Hummelstown State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 17036 Country: United States
Names of additional observers	Elora Grahame, Joseph Bellehumeur
Species (Common Name)	White Ibis
Species (Scientific Name)	Eudocimus albus
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Juvenile, sex unknown
Observation Date and Time	07-08-2015 5:40 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S24198242
County	Dauphin
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Harrisburg
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Wildwood Lake Park
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.313341, -76.883857
Habitat	Permanent wetland with cattails, american lotus, and swamp rose mallow emerging in shallower areas.
Distance to bird	200 meters
Viewing conditions	Very clear afternoon with some heat shimmer at a distance
Optical equipment used	Leupold 10X50 Binoculars and Vortex Razor HD 20-60X85 Spotting Scope
Description	Medium-sized wading bird. Long dark yellow/gray decurved bill, dark iris, dark brown mantle and wings, pale gray head and neck, white belly, and grayish legs. Roughly 2 feet tall. Was wading with Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets. The ibis looked fairly small in comparison.

Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)

Seen wading through shallow water and probing into the mud with long bill.

Occasionally the bird would catch a crayfish and eat it whole. Was seen in close proximity to Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

The medium size and long decurved bill eliminated all wading birds except for ibises. The pale gray head and neck, white belly, and dark brown mantle and wings eliminated Glossy and White-faced Ibis. This plumage is indicative of a juvenile White Ibis.

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

Seen from July 8-26, 2015 by 37 people according to eBird.

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

Yes, I am positive of this sighting. I have seen several hundred White Ibises in Florida and even a few others in Pennsylvania. I had excellent views of the bird for close to an hour. It matches every description and picture of juvenile White Ibis I have seen in any field guide.

During

Sibley Guide App

After

None

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph Video Upload images, audio, video or drawings

IMG_6540.MOV



IMG_6542.JPG



IMG_6543.JPG

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