

## PA Rare Bird Report

<b>Submission Date</b>	2016-09-06 18:43:33
<b>Observer's Name</b>	Jim Rocco
<b>E-mail</b>	jrocco@floodcity.net
<b>Phone</b>	814-5361839
<b>Observer's Address</b>	Street Address: 226 Blair Street City: Johnstown State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 15905 Country: United States
<b>Names of additional observers</b>	Bob Gorsuch Nancy Ott
<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	Swallow-tailed Kite
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	Elanoides forficatus
<b>Number of individuals</b>	1
<b>Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)</b>	Adult Male
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	09-06-2016 11:50 AM
<b>Did you submit this sighting to eBird?</b>	Not yet (please do, eBird is great!)
<b>County</b>	Bedford
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	Napier Township
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	Allegheny Front Hawk Watch
<b>Habitat</b>	Mountain top
<b>Distance to bird</b>	100 to200ft
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	clear with strong Nw winds , large puffy clouds
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	Leica ultravid 8x42
<b>Description</b>	Bird approached head on appeared all white, made about 3 circles , long wings , long pointed tail, white with dark trailing edges on wings and dark tail
<b>Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)</b>	Made three circles to gain height then fixed wings and headed south
<b>Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)</b>	Was moving through with 3 broad winged hawks Went to National Geographic guide to birds to verify identification

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

Yes , It's a rare bird seldom seen in PA, very distinctif

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## PA Rare Bird Report

<b>Submission Date</b>	2016-09-26 19:47:17
<b>Observer's Name</b>	Nancy Ott
<b>E-mail</b>	ednancy.ott@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	814-467-5909
<b>Observer's Address</b>	2039 Dark Shade Dr Windber Pa 15963 United States
<b>Names of additional observers</b>	Jim Rocco, Bob Gorsuch
<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	Swallow-tailed Kite
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	Elanoides forficatus
<b>Number of individuals</b>	1
<b>Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)</b>	adult
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	09-06-2016 11:50 AM
<b>Did you submit this sighting to eBird?</b>	Not yet (please do, eBird is great!)
<b>County</b>	Somerset
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	Sahde Township near Central City
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	Allegheny Front Hawkwatch
<b>GPS coordinates of sighting</b>	40.0814864,-78.7261391
<b>Habitat</b>	clear opening-surrounded by trees edge of ridge
<b>Distance to bird</b>	100 ft
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	cloud cover 0%-50%, visibility up to 32 km
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	Steiner Predator Extreme 10x42
<b>Description</b>	Bright white part of body caught observer's naked eye. Bright white head viewed by binocular and as observation continued as bird flew from NW over head towards west and circled, plainly seen swallow tail shape noticed. The background of the sky showed-all white head, black wing edges and tips.
<b>Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)</b>	Flight pattern steady from NW, few turns and then flew south.

**Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)**

Plain forked shape of tail made distinguishing this from any other bird. Head was a glowing white-smaller than any bald eagles that migrate past the hawk watch and purer white color. Black accents of wings and tails-distinct-no shading or gray. Black eye

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

Yes. Definite due to good view. Details unlike any other bird I've seen along the Allegheny Front

**During**

National Geographic edition -Jim Rocco

**After**

My own National Geographic Field Guide-fifth edition

**Click to edit**

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