

171-02-2004

Species: Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*)

Number seen: 1

Date of sighting: May 11, 2004

Time of sighting: 14:10 – 14:12

Location: Fort Everett Road, Lehigh County, PA, 2 miles northwest of New Tripoli.

Habitat: Broken forest interspersed with some old fields.

Sighting conditions/weather:

Partly cloudy, hazy and hot (30° C). No wind.

Distance: At its closest, the Kite was 40m high directly overhead.

Details of sighting and description:

We saw the Kite extremely well for about two minutes. It was observed during a weekly roadside survey for raptors. In the first minute, it was soaring 40-50m from the road at a height of 40m. During the next minute, it flew toward us, going west along the road and then directly overhead, and then continued away from us. From below, the small head and body, as well as the underwing coverts, were gray. The secondaries and primaries were darker. While the bird was soaring, it was possible to briefly see the back, which also was grayish. The tail was dark, without markings. In flight, it cocked its tail a few times from side to side. The shape of the wing was sharp and pointed.

Familiarity with this species: I saw lots (thousands!) of Mississippi Kites as a counter for the Smith Point Hawk Watch in Texas.

Comparison to similar species: No other similar species of kite or raptor occurs in this area.

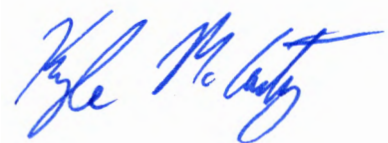
Equipment used: 8.5 x 44 binoculars

Additional observers who prepared a report on this species: Ruth Muñiz Lopez, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary intern from Ecuador.

Reported by: Kyle McCarty, Research Technician, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, 410 Summer Valley Road, Orwigsburg, PA 17961.

570-943-3411 ext 107 (w)
mccarty@hawkmtn.org

570-366-0729 (h)
kyle_m_mccarty@hotmail.com



RARE SPECIES REPORT

SPECIES: <i>ICTINIA MISSISSIPPIENSIS</i>		NUMBER SEEN: 1
SIGHTING DATE: May 11, 2004		SIGHTING TIME: 14:10 - 14:12
LOCATION:	COUNTY & STATE- Lehigh County, PA DISTANCE & DIRECTION FROM NEAREST TOWN- 2 miles NW of New Tripoli on Ft. Everett Road DIRECTIONS, IF APPLICABLE-	
HABITAT: Broken forest with old fields.		
SIGHTING CONDITIONS:	LIGHTING- Partly cloudy, hazy. DISTANCE- 40 m EQUIP. USED- BINOCULARS LENGTH OF SIGHTING- 2 minutes	
DESCRIPTION:	VOICE- SIZE- MEDIUM SIZED PLUMAGE- PALE GRAY UNDERPARTS, GREYISH IN PRIMARIES. UNIFORM BLACK TAIL. UNIFORMLY MEDIUM GRAY UNDERPARTS ANATOMY (BILL LENGTH, LEG COLOR, ETC.)- BEHAVIOR- SOARING OTHER FEATURES-	
FAMILIARITY WITH THIS & SIMILAR SPECIES: <i>ICTINIA PLUMBEA</i>		
COMPARISON TO SIMILAR SPECIES: PALER HEAD THAN <i>I. PLUMBEA</i> AND LACKING OF RUFOUS FLASH IN PRIMARIES		
HAS A PHOTOGRAPH BEEN TAKEN? NO		
HAS ANY ADDITIONAL OBSERVER(S) FILLED OUT A RARE SPECIES REPORT? IF SO WHO? Kyle McCarty, Research Technician, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association		
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:		
SIGHTING & REPORT BY: RUTH MUÑIZ LOPEZ		
ADDRESS: HAWK MOUNTAIN ACOPIAN CENTER FOR CONSERVATION LEARNING, 410 SUMMER VALLEY RD., ORWIGSBURG, PA		PHONE NO.: (570) 943 3411
SIGNATURE:	DATE: 12/05/04	



Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*)

Date of Sighting: 11 May 2004 to 11 May 2004

Location: FORT EVERETT ROAD

County : LEHIGH

Observer(s): Kyle McCarty

Date of Submission: 2004

Submitted by: Kyle McCarty

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

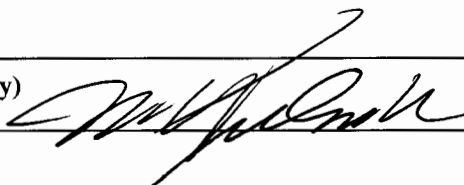
Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
R. Wiltraut			X					
D. Heathcote			X					
P. Guris		X						
J. Stanley		X						
E. Witmer		X						
R. Leberman		X						
M. Sharp			X					
TOTALS		4	3					
DECISION		X						

Comments: 7/0

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

4/25/05