PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date 2017-05-26 12:34:02

Observer's Name Matthew Jewell

E-mail dronebird@gmail.com

Observer's Address 200 Upper Valley RD

North Wales PA 19454 United States

Species (Common Name) Mississippi Kite

Species (Scientific Name) Ictinia Mississippiensis

Number of individuals

Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sub-adult (sex unknown)
Sex (if known)

Observation Date and Time 05-19-2017 9:30 AM

Did you submit this sighting to eBird?

Yes

Link to eBird checklist http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S36982525

County Montgomery

Location (City, Borough, North Wales Township)

Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, Gwynedd Wildlife Preserve **lake, road)**

GPS coordinates of sighting 40°11'40.5"N 75°16'25.5"W

Habitat Meadow/Woods

Distance to birdKite was soaring high and gaining elevation and distance as I observed.

Viewing conditions Clear/sunny

was doing)

Optical equipment used Leica Ultravid 8x42.

DescriptionMedium sized raptor with long slender wings. Short leading primary giving the wing a distinctive appearance. Square tail. Plumage was close to adult. Overall gray with white head. From the look I got the only non-adult aspect to plumage was a banded

tail and not the dark black-ish tail of an adult.

Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the birdObserverd MIKI in flight. As I watched kite drifted north east gaining altitude. After a few minutes I lost it in the sun.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

Somewhat similar in appearance to Peregrine Falcon but set apart by overall shape and color. PEFA bulkier with longer rounded tail and having a barred appearance below and dark head vs light colored head of adult MIKI and squared tail. For me the wing shape of MIKI with short outer primary is diagnostic.

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

Since my lifer Mississippi Kite in May 2010 (Cape May, NJ.) I've observed the species a dozen times. Birding Cape May in spring has trained me to be on the look out for MIKI mid May to early June.

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

Yes, I got a difinitve look. I have a good bit of prior experience with species.

During

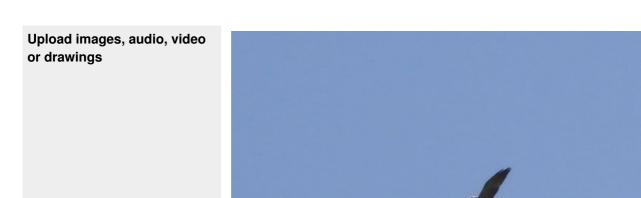
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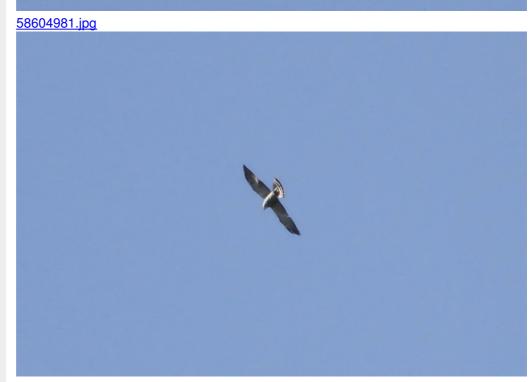
After

The Sibley Guide to Birds, 2nd Edition

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph





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