

## PA Rare Bird Report

<b>Submission Date</b>	2017-05-26 12:34:02
<b>Observer's Name</b>	Matthew Jewell
<b>E-mail</b>	dronebird@gmail.com
<b>Observer's Address</b>	200 Upper Valley RD North Wales PA 19454 United States
<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	Mississippi Kite
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	Ictinia Mississippiensis
<b>Number of individuals</b>	1
<b>Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)</b>	Sub-adult (sex unknown)
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	05-19-2017 9:30 AM
<b>Did you submit this sighting to eBird?</b>	Yes
<b>Link to eBird checklist</b>	<a href="http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S36982525">http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S36982525</a>
<b>County</b>	Montgomery
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	North Wales
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	Gwynedd Wildlife Preserve
<b>GPS coordinates of sighting</b>	40° 11' 40.5" N 75° 16' 25.5" W
<b>Habitat</b>	Meadow/Woods
<b>Distance to bird</b>	Kite was soaring high and gaining elevation and distance as I observed.
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	Clear/sunny
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	Leica Ultravid 8x42.
<b>Description</b>	Medium 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.
<b>Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)</b>	Observerd 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**

none

**After**

The Sibley Guide to Birds, 2nd Edition

**Supporting evidence (check all that apply)**

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video  
or drawings



[58604981.jpg](#)



[58604991.jpg](#)

Click to edit

PORC-webform00398