

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2019-06-19 11:26:49
Observer's Name	Karin Isett
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Observer's Address	709 Limekiln Rd Doylestown PA 18901 United States
Species (Common Name)	Mississippi Kite
Species (Scientific Name)	<i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Adult, male
Observation Date and Time	06-19-2019 10:30 AM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
County	Bucks
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Doylestown township
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Treeline of neighbor's property - parallel to Countryside Drive
Habitat	Suburban woods with clearings
Distance to bird	125 ft
Viewing conditions	overcast
Optical equipment used	swarovski EL 8 x 32
Description	All gray bird with smallish head, small hooked bill and dark eye spot. Top of head was lighter than rest of bird. Build similar to Sharp-shinned but more slender - broad at shoulders, then tapering down. Tail medium length with straight edge. Larger than Blue Jay. When it flew, wings long, slender and very pointed. Lighter patch mid wing and tips of wings much darker than overall gray of body. Looked falcon like when it flew off.

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

Perched at top of tall dead tree in a tree line. Being harassed by multiple smaller species of bird, including Blue Jays (most aggressive towards the bird), Goldfinch, Robin. Did not seem that bothered by the harassing birds - did not flinch or respond much. Sat there approximately 4 minutes before gliding off.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

Smaller, more slender than Broadwing with smaller head. Too big for Merlin, Kestrel. No banding or spots or barring. While perched, color was consistently gray throughout. No eyeline or cap

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

95% positive, due to never having physically seeing this bird before. I knew immediately that it was a species that I had never seen before.

After

Sibley, discussion with August Mirabella. google images for Mississippi Kitefor

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