

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2014-07-06 09:16:28
Observer's Name	Mike Fialkovich
E-mail	mpfial@verizon.net
Observer's Address	Country: United States
Species (Common Name)	Piping Plover
Species (Scientific Name)	Charadrius melodus
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Adult
Observation Date and Time	07-04-2014 10:00 AM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Not yet (please do, eBird is great!)
County	Erie
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Presque Isle State Park
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Gull Point
Habitat	Open sandy beach.
Distance to bird	Approximately 30 yards; varied.
Viewing conditions	Excellent, sunny clear sky.
Optical equipment used	Leica Ultravid 10 x 42 binoculars, Leica Spotting Scope with 20 - 60x zoom eyepiece.
Description	Small shorebird, very pale sandy brown crown, wings and back. Same color as the beach sand. Crown showed dark blackish bar across the front, from eye to eye. Forehead white, white supercilium set off black eye. Throat, breast and remaining underparts white. Blackish breast band extended from sides of neck across the front of the breast. It narrowed across the breast but was complete. Bill stubby, orange with black tip. Legs and feet orange.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	Typical plover foraging behavior of rapid runs combined with short stops. The bird employed this behavior the entire time of observation.
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	This bird was with the Snowy Plover which I also submitted documentation. The Snowy Plover was similar in size, sandy color and build but had a slightly longer, thinner black bill,

dark legs and feet, dark area on auriculars, incomplete breast band. Semipalmated Plover would be noticeably darker brown on the upperparts with blackish auriculars and fore crown. The breast band would be broader.

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

This bird and the Snowy Plover that I also submitted were found and seen by others a few days prior to my observation. There were two Piping Plovers present, but I only saw one of them.

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

Yes. I've seen many Piping Plovers along the New Jersey and North Carolina coast and saw one at Presque Isle in the past.

During

None.

After

Sibley Guide to Birds, National Geographic Guide to Birds of North America Third Edition, Smithsonian Guide to Birds of North America.

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