



PENNSYLVANIA RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

This form is presented as a convenience and guide. It can be used if desired, but is not necessary for submitting a report. Species requiring documentation are those on the Review List or not on the Official List of Birds of Pennsylvania. Send documentation to:

Nick Pulcinella, Secretary
Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee
613 Howard Ave.
West Chester, PA 19380
nickpulcinella@comcast.net

SPECIES (common and scientific name) Black-necked Stilt (Himantopus mexicanus)
Subspecies, if known _____

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 SEX(ES) u/w

AGE(S) AND PLUMAGE(S) (e.g. immature; adult in breeding plumage; year for gulls; basic or alternate if you prefer those terms; state of molt if applicable): Adult

DATE OF OBSERVATION 5/19/07 TIME 11:15 AM.

LOCATION (city, borough, township) Fogelsville, Upper Macungie Township

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) 860 Nestle Way

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name Wayne N. Laubscher
Address 749 E. Crank Hollow Road
City Lock Haven State PA ZIP 17745-8153
e-mail (optional) wlaubsch@okcast.org phone (optional) 570-748-7511

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you): NONE

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) retention pond at an industrial park surrounded by grass, trees, and shrubs.

DISTANCE TO BIRD ~100 feet

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) Partly cloudy, some sunny conditions, sun was almost overhead.

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED Pentax 8x32 binoculars and Pentax 80ED scope

DESCRIPTION (Include as much detail as you observed – size relative to other species present; "jizz" = e.g. posture, body shape, and proportions; colors and patterns of plumage; bill, eye, and leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual): Large, wading shorebird. Black back, wings, dorsal neck, top of head and black over eyes with some white just above the eyes and white face, ventral neck, chest, and belly. Long red legs, straight black bill that was thin.

BEHAVIOR (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) Not very active. It was standing in the shallow water of the retention pond moving around slightly and occasionally calling.

VOCALIZATIONS A short series of "Keks" or "Yeks".

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph Video recording _____ Audio recording _____ Drawing _____

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:

Name myself
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
e-mail (optional) _____ phone (optional) _____

Please include a copy of the photograph or recording with your report, and accompany it with a complete written documentation if the identification is obvious to you. If you made a drawing, please include it.

IF THIS IS A DEAD BIRD:

General condition _____
If collected (by permit), location of specimen if known _____

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others) The only species that is similar is the American Avocet, and the plumage, bill and leg color of the Avocet is all wrong for Black-necked stilts.

DISCUSSION - Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it: _____

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES I have seen many BNST in Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey.

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? (why or why not) Yes, this is a unique species and the I.D. was of no doubt.

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation Sibley
After observation Raufman

DATE OF THIS REPORT: 6/3/07

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER Wayne M. Zuber

BLACK-NECKED STILT (*Himantopus himantopus*)

Lehigh County, PA / May 18, 2007

This bird was reported and identified at least a week prior to my observation. I stopped to see it while I was in Harrisburg for the PSO Meeting.

The bird was foraging in a grassy pond behind a warehouse in an industrial park, where it was observed by many observers for several days. It actively fed most of the time I observed it, pausing for a few minutes to rest and preen. I saw it fly across the pond which occurred while I was shooting video. The black wings and long legs extending beyond the tail were evident while in flight.

Description:

Identification of this wader is straightforward owing to its unique structure and plumage. All other species of stilt could be eliminated by the black crown and white patch above the eye.

- Very slim build (almost delicate) with over proportioned long thin legs. Legs were pinkish red.
- Forehead white; crown, sides of face, nape and rear of neck black. A roughly oval shaped white patch was just above the eye. Mantle, wings, and bill black; bill long and thin.
- In the photos, brownish tones can be seen on the mantle indicating this was a female. This color was difficult to see in the field.
- Forehead, chin, throat, fore neck, breast, sides and all underparts white.
- In flight the wings were entirely black and the upperside of the tail and the back were white. The white extended up the back between the wings and was only visible when the bird flew (which can be seen in my video).

I've seen numerous Black-necked Stilts along the East coast of the U.S. and in South Texas.

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Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Black-necked Stilt (Himantopus mexicanus)

Date of Sighting: 13 May 2007 to 21 May 2007

Location: LEHIGH

County: FOGELSVILLE

Observer(s): Drew Weber m. obs.

Date of Submission: 2007

Submitted by: Drew Weber, W. Laubscher, M Fialkovich, G Malosh

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

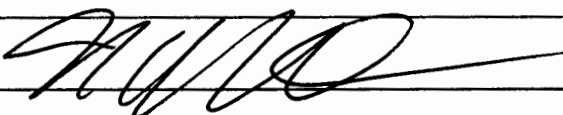
Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
R. Wiltraut	X							
A. Guarente	X							
T. Johnson	X							
J. Stanley B. Cawther	X							
E. Witmer	X							
J. Heller	X							
G. Malosh	X							
TOTALS	7							
DECISION	X							

Comments: 7/0

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

12/6/07