

329-01-1991

ORE
1/24/92

WILSON'S PHALAROPE
Steganopus tricolor
Mercer County

by Mike Fialkovich

Date: Aug. 4, 1991

Location: Shenango Reservoir

Observers: Joyce Hoffmann, Mike Fialkovich, & Walt Shaffer

Shorebirds were abundant at Shenango due to the low water level, so we checked it weekly. We made one of our regular stops and began scanning the mudflats. Joyce noticed a pale shorebird in a nearby pool and exclaimed "Phalarope!" so we moved closer to get a better look.

The bill was long, thin and black. The neck was long and thin--quite different from the Yellowlegs which were nearby. This bird fed in a different manner also. It was very active, picking at the surface of the water. When it moved to deeper water, it began to spin as it swam, picking food from the surface. The Yellowlegs were deliberate feeders, probing the mud and walking slowly.

The color of the back was light gray; the breast, sides and belly were white. Two faint buff to brown stripes extended from the crown to both sides of the neck. There was no obvious "phalarope mark" through the eye. The legs were yellow.

In flight, the bird showed gray wings which lacked wingstripes, and a white rump, which is indicative of a Wilson's Phalarope.

We observed the bird through 10 power binoculars and 20-60 power spotting scopes for approximately 15 - 20 minutes, in good light. Walt photographed the bird.

141 Comrie Avenue
Braddock, PA 15104

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: **Wilson's Phalarope**

Date of Sighting: **4 August 1991 to 4 August 1991**

Observer(s): **Mike Fialkovich**

Date of Submission: **1992**

Submitted by: **Mike Fialkovich**

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V		
					A	B	C
E. Kwater	Abstein						
B. Haas			X				
F. Haas			X				
R. Ickes			X				
G. McWilliams			X				
S. Santner			X				
J. Skinner			X				
TOTALS			6				
DECISION			X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

B. M. Haas

Date:

2-27-93