PA Rare Bird Report

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Submission Date	2018-02-10 17:01:29
Observer's Name	Scott Godshall
E-mail	godshallcs@hotmail.com
Phone	215-778-7325
Observer's Address	991 Camp Rd Telford PA 18969 United States
Names of additional observers	multiple observers in next two days
Species (Common Name)	Red phalarope
Species (Scientific Name)	Phalaropus fulicarius
Number of individuals	1
Observation Date and Time	09-03-2016 1:00 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S31393682
County	Montgomery
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Green Lane
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Green Lane Park - Walt Road
Habitat	seasonal mudflats - reservoir water levels were low this year
Distance to bird	less than 50 yards
Viewing conditions	clear, sunny

Description

Small shorebird observed in deeper water, swimming as it fed on upon the surface of the water. It was constantly in motion. Legs were not observed as the bird never left the water. It had clean white flanks and was clean white under its tail. The back was scaled with black and brown/gold coloring. There was no streaking observed on the back. The upper flanks had some gray mixing in with the scaled black and brown/gold pattern. The throat, breast and sides of neck were buffy colored. The face was white with a black "comma" around the eye. The head had a dark cap which appeared black but it certain light took on some streaks and coloration of the brown/gold color seen on the back. The dark cap transitioned down the back of the neck into a stripe running down the length of the neck. The bill was moderately long, all black, and upon first observation appeared pretty thin. It was only after comparing pictures with two Red-necked phalaropes that I had seen recently that the bill did not appear as thin as a Rednecked would.

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

Swimming as it fed upon the surface of the water. In constant motion.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

Initial separation from both Wilson's and Red-necked phalarope was via the bill - more stout/thick than either of those species.

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

Yes. Pictures are diagnostic.

During

Sibley app

After

Sibley guide to eastern North America

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings









Red Phalarope 3.jpg



Red Phalarope 4.jpg



Red Phalarope 5.jpg



Red Phalarope 6.jpg



Red Phalarope 7.jpg

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