

357-02-1997

SENECA ROCKS AUDUBON SOCIETY BIRD SIGHTING DOCUMENTATION GUIDE

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of rare or unusual birds. It may be used flexibly and need not be used at all except as a guide. Attach additional sheets as necessary. PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. The following checklist can be used to remind yourself of items that you want to include in this report. Not all of these points will be seen, nor are they all necessary to correctly identify a species, but not including something you saw lessens the value of your documentation. PLEASE REPORT WHAT WAS SEEN, NOT WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SEEN.

SIZE, SHAPE, AND PLUMAGE DESCRIPTION:

- Give size compared to a common bird
- Shape (warbler, thrush, hawk, etc.)
- Head: colors and pattern
- Eye: color, ring, stripe, lore, brow
- Bill: length, color
- Legs: color, length, toes (number, type)
- Upperparts: nape (neck), back, rump
- Tail: colors, shape, pattern, length
- Underparts: throat, breast, belly, flanks, vent
- Wings: colors, wingbars, length, wing linings, shape

Parts of bird that couldn't be seen

BEHAVIOR:

- Posture
- Feeding method
- Flight pattern
- Vocalization
- Preening or sleeping
- Other species present
- Interactions with other birds
- Nesting (building, brooding, etc.)

NUMBER, SEX, AGE:

- Number of birds
- Sex by plumage or behavior
- Age by plumage or behavior

LOCATION:

- Place name (town, park, SGL, etc.)
- County and State
- Habitat (field, woods, water, plants, etc.)

CONDITIONS:

- Time of day
- Temperature
- Sky/cloud cover
- Precipitation/snow cover
- Water (depth, waves, % ice)
- Wind (speed, direction) *not much*
- Moon phase
- Sun (location in relation to you and bird) *Behind a*
- Length of sighting *15 minutes & bird was still there*
- Distance to bird *1/4 mile or less*
- Optics (binos, scope, power of each)
- Experience with this species, years birding
- How were similar species eliminated? *Color Pattern:*
- Field guide used (during and after sighting) *Before, &*
- Was description written from notes made during *bird - there* observation, notes made after observation, or *interview* memory? Was field guide used prior to writing field notes?
- Other observers (are they reporting?)
- Sketch or photograph (sketches, no matter how basic, are extremely useful)

SPECIES Black-legged Kittiwake DATE SIGHTED 9-7-97

SIZE, SHAPE, AND PLUMAGE DESCRIPTION:

Bird was alone, size is difficult, bigger than a Bonaparte's Gull. Black legs, bill. white underbody. Grayish back with white on the primaries and secondary: except for the wing tips which were jet black. Black was along top of wing to wrist and then down wing to back. Tail was white or black band a tip. eye was dark, with a dark smudge behind it and the bird had a black collar on dorsal neck & sides.

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BEHAVIOR: Flying along dam breast - dainty flight.

NUMBER, SEX, AND AGE: 1, immature

LOCATION: Montour Preserve Lake, Montour County PA

CONDITIONS, TIME, WEATHER, OPTICS, EXPERIENCE: 9-7-97 variable cloudy, little misty fog, warm - About 7:00 - 7:15 AM I used my leica 8x42 and my kowa TSN/2 scope. Bird was not very close, but close enough for ID. I have experience with this bird from last winter pelagic trips off NJ.

NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, DATE OF WRITE-UP:

9-8-97

John G. FEDAK
221 Washington St.
New Bethlehem Pa 16242

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)

Date of Sighting: 7 September 1997 to 7 September 1997

Location: MONTOUR PRESERVE

County: MONTOUR

Observer(s): John Fedak

Date of Submission: 1997

Submitted by: John Fedak

Written Description: YES

Photo: NO

Specimen: NO

Recording: NONE

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas			X					
P. Schwalbe			X					
K. Parkes								X
R. Ickes			X					
P. Hess			X					
J. McWilliams				X				
T. Floyd			X					
TOTALS			5	1				1
DECISION			X					

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):



Date:

6/26/00