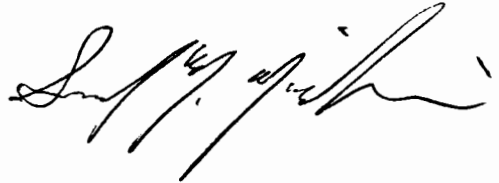


360-01-1987

SABINE'S GULL

On October 8, 1987 from Sunset Point at the northernmost point on Presque Isle State Park after a heavy passage of Surf Scoters, a boldly patterned gull suddenly appeared in my field of view. The solid dark back and wings contrasting with the prominent white triangles in the inner webs of the wings, readily identified this gull as a first winter Sabine's Gull. The chocolate brown median coverts, scapulars, and mantle feathers were sharply edged with white, giving the entire surface a scaly appearance. The tail was slightly forked with a distinctive subterminal band. Though the head not viewed well from the angle from which it was being observed, at least the back of the head and nape were seen as solid dark brown. The underside of the wings showed a faint pattern similar to the pattern on the upperside. The gull flew past sunset point in a westerly direction approximately 20 to 30 yards offshore and about 200 yards from my point of observation. I had it in view for approximately 2 minutes with my 10 x 40 Zeiss binocular before it disappeared behind Cottonwood trees growing along the beach. It was mostly cloudy with the temperature at 42°F and the wind from the north-northwest to 25 mph.

Gerald M. McWilliams



Record No.: 360-01-1987

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # of

Species: Sabine's Gull

Date of Sighting: 10/08/87

Observer(s): Jerry McWilliams

Date of Submission: 1989

Submitted by: Jerry McWilliams

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V		
					A	B	C
E. Kwater			X				
B. Haas			X				
F. Haas			X				
R. Leberman			X				
G. McWilliams			X				
S. Santner			X				
P. Schwalbe			X				
TOTALS			7				
DECISION			X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

B. Haas

Date: 12-26-88