

PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE
2469 Hammertown Road
Narvon, PA 17555

September 25, 1997

Jean Stull
661 Benson Road
Waterford, PA 16441

Dear Jean,

Thank you for submitting documentation on the Sabine's Gull you saw at Presque Isle S.P. on 3 November 1995 to P.O.R.C. The record circulated through the committee two times and after careful review, we regret that we are unable to accept this record. The committee was concerned that the written description was too brief to adequately describe a Sabine's Gull and eliminate the possibility of a similar species.

This of course, does not mean the bird was not a Sabine's Gull, merely, that the record is not beyond reasonable doubt for acceptance

We hope that this does not discourage you from submitting documentation on any rare birds you find in the future. Please be encouraged to send as much detail as possible when submitting a report.

Sincerely,

Nick Pulcinella
Chairman

Record # 360-03-1995

360 -03-1995

✓

SABINE'S GULL

November 3, 1995

Presque Isle State Park, off Beach 11

30x Nikon spotting scope; 150 - 200 yards (?)

This observation was extremely brief, the following noted:
The bird was the size of Bonaparte's Gulls with which it was seen. There were perhaps 100 or more Bonaparte's and several Ring-bills in the air over a raft of Red-breasted Mergansers just south of Thompson's Bay. Several other gulls were in the water including an Iceland Gull. My window-mounted scope was on the Iceland Gull when the bird flew across my field of view. The diagnostic triangular white wedge on the trailing edge of the wings contrasted to otherwise dark wings and back. Because of the brief look, I cannot describe tail or head.

I ruled out both juvenile Black-legged Kittiwake and juvenile Little Gull because the bird showed no dark wing band as is diagnostic for both of the above. Furthermore, it was too large for a Little Gull, too small for a kittiwake.

I have seen Sabine's Gull only once previously--in Alaska.

Jean Stull
661 Benson Rd.
Waterford, PA 16441
(814)796-2070



Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # *2* of *2*

Species: Sabine's Gull (*Larus sabini*)

Date of Sighting: 3 November 1995 to 3 November 1995

Location: PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK

County: ERIE

Observer(s): Jean Stull

Date of Submission: 1996

Submitted by: Jean Stull

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					
N. Pulcinella				X				
E. Kwater				X				
R. Ickes				X				
G. McWilliams			X					
P. Schwalbe			X					
S. Feldstein				X				
TOTALS			3	4				
DECISION				X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F. C. Haas

Date:

8-16-97

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: Sabine's Gull (*Larus sabini*)

Date of Sighting: 3 November 1995 to 3 November 1995

Location: PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK

County: ERIE

Observer(s): Jean Stull

Date of Submission: 1996

Submitted by: Jean Stull

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					
N. Pulcinella			X					
E. Kwater			/	X				
R. Ickes				X				
G. McWilliams			X					
P. Schwalbe			X					
S. Feldstein				X				
TOTALS			4	3				
DECISION								

Comments: send for second Round

Signature (Secretary):

J C Haas

Date:

2-22-97