

PENNSYLVANIA RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

This form is presented as a convenience and guide. It can be used if desired, but is not necessary for submitting a report. Species requiring documentation are those on the Review List or not on the Official List of Birds of Pennsylvania. Send documentation to:

Nick Pulcinella, Secretary
 Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee
 613 Howard Ave.
 West Chester, PA 19380
 nickpul@bellatlantic.net

360-03-2003

SPECIES (common and scientific name) Sabine's Gull Xema Sabini
 Subspecies, if known _____

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 SEX(ES) _____

AGE(S) AND PLUMAGE(S) (e.g. immature; adult in breeding plumage; year for gulls; basic or alternate if you prefer those terms; state of molt if applicable):
Adult - Breeding

DATE OF OBSERVATION Sept. 20, 2003 TIME 7:15 EDT ^{gm.} ~~(am)~~

LOCATION (city, borough, township) Near Howard, Centre Co.

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) Bald Eagle State Park - beach area

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name Greg Grove
 Address R.O.1 Box 483
 City Petersburg State Pa ZIP 16669
 e-mail (optional) gwg2@psu.edu phone (optional) 814 667 2305

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you):
Dave Wilton, Peter Robinson, Dan Hinnebusch, Deb Grove, Lewis Grove

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) Sandy beach
at large lake (state park)

DISTANCE TO BIRD closest approach ~30-40 yards

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) _____
cloudy (no sun), visibility good

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED Swarovski EL 10x42
scope (wilton, Robinson)

DESCRIPTION (Include as much detail as you observed – size relative to other species present; “jizz”= e.g. posture, body shape, and proportions; colors and patterns of plumage; bill, eye, and leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual): _____

Size - much smaller than Ring-billed Gulls also present

Head - Dark, completely

Bill - Dark with yellow tip

Upper parts, folded wings - Gray - Darker gray than ad. Ring-billed Gull

Legs - gray - (not black like Laughing Gull)

In flight: obvious striking wing pattern “M”

- outer edges - Black

- inner wing - gray

- and with white leading to easily recognizable “M”

Tail in flight - appeared to be forked

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

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

Loafing on beach with Ring-billed Gulls

VOCALIZATIONS _____

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph _____ Video recording _____ Audio recording _____ Drawing _____

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

e-mail (optional) _____

phone (optional) _____

Please include a copy of the photograph or recording with your report, and accompany it with a complete written documentation if the identification is obvious to you. If you made a drawing, please include it.

IF THIS IS A DEAD BIRD:

General condition _____

If collected (by permit), location of specimen if known _____

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others)

- Small Gull - separate from Medium + Large by direct comparison to RBG
- Dark head, bill with yellow tip - eliminate Laughing, Franklin, Kittiwakes, Bonaparte's, Ross's
- Dark legs elim. Bonaparte's, Little, ~~Black~~ Ross's
- "M" wing pattern elim. Little Gull

DISCUSSION - Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it

Isabel - related

First identified by Dave Wilton and Peter Robinson

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES None
with Sabine's

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? (why or why not)
Yes - field marks of adult plumage obvious

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation

After observation Nat. Geog., Sibley guides

DATE OF THIS REPORT: September 27, 2003

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER Meggy W. Lane

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

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

Date of Sighting: 20 September 2003 to 20 September 2003

Location: BALD EAGLE STATE PARK

County : CENTRE

Observer(s): Greg Grove, Dave Wilton, Peter Robinson multiple obsrvers

Date of Submission: 2003

Submitted by: Greg Grove

Written Description: Yes

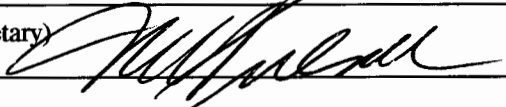
Photo: No

Specimen: No

Recording: ~~Video~~ NO

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
G. Armistead R.W. Trout			X					
D. Heathcote			X					
P. Guris			X					
J. Stanley			X					
E. Witmer			X					
R. Leberman			X					
M. Sharp			X					
TOTALS			7					
DECISION			X					

Comments: 710

Signature (Secretary)  Date: 9/16/03