



340-04-2000

## Documentation for a Black-headed Gull (*Larus Ridibundus*) in Allegheny County

Observers: Scott Kinzey and Kerri Evans

Date: October 29 and 30, 2000

Location: Ohio River in McKees Rocks just downstream from the mouth of Chartiers Creek on and around the boat marina. This is the same site where the same specie was seen in 1997 and 1999.

I was checking this site for the arrival of gulls on October 29 when I found the seasons first flock of gulls. The site had harbored only a few gulls in previous weeks. Along with about 45 Ring-billeds and 1 Herring was an adult winter Black-headed Gull. It was floating on the water more than 50 yards out, but with 8X binos I could see its reddish bill, hood remnants, ear-spot and otherwise clean looking head (unlike grayish nape of Bonaparte's). I had to leave for work at that time.

I arrived at the site before sunrise the next morning (30<sup>th</sup>) and waited for the gulls to come in. They started to arrive around 6:30am and the Black-headed came in around 7:00. My fiancé began feeding bread to the gulls and the BhGu circled for a minute or two at close range. Kerri noted the reddish legs that I asked her to watch out for. I took about 7 in-flight slides, two of which are included after having prints made from them.

The bird then landed on the docks and I got a few more slides. ~~The strong backlight caused underexposure, but next to 1 Herring and 3 Ring-billeds, the relative size is apparent.~~

The bill color (about 90% red with a dark tip) is seen easier on the slides that I can provide if there is doubt. Other slides also show some wing pattern and the dark underside of the outer wing, but none are excellent.

I have seen this specie at Moraine S.P. in Butler County and now on 5 different days in two years at this site.

Scott Kinzey  
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perched slides  
not  
included

# Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

## Tabulation Form - Round Two

Species: Black-headed Gull ( *Larus ridibundus* )

Date of Sighting: 29 October 2000 to 30 October 2000

Location: MCKEES ROCKS

County: ALLEGHENY

Observer(s): Scott Kinzey, Kerri Evans

Date of Submission: 2001

Submitted by: Scott Kinzey

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
G. Armistead			X					
D. Heathcote	X							
P. Hess	X							
J. Stanley			X					
B. Reid				X				
R. Leberman			X					
M. Sharp								
TOTALS	2		3	1				
DECISION			X					

Comments: 5/1

Signature (Secretary):

Date:

# Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

## Tabulation Form - Round One

Species: Black-headed Gull ( *Larus ridibundus* )

Date of Sighting: 29 October 2000 to 30 October 2000

Location: MCKEES ROCKS

County: ALLEGHENY

Observer(s): Scott Kinzey, Kerri Evans

Date of Submission: 2001

Submitted by: Scott Kinzey

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
G. Armistead	X							
D. Couchman			X					
P. Hess	X							
J. Stanley		<del>X</del>	X					
B. Reid				X				
<del>B. Lebcunaw</del> P. Rodewald	X							
M. Sharp				X				
TOTALS	3		2	2				
DECISION								

Comments: 5/2 - GO TO 2ND ROUND

Signature (Secretary):

Date: 12/28/01