

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2018-03-21 19:39:13
Observer's Name	Geoff Malosh
E-mail	pomarine@earthlink.net
Observer's Address	450 Amherst Avenue Moon Township PA 15108 United States
Species (Common Name)	Black-headed Gull
Species (Scientific Name)	Chroicocephalus ridibundus
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Adult, basic
Observation Date and Time	11-26-2017 2:30 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S40762118
County	Butler
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Moraine State Park, Lake Arthur
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	South shore day use area
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.943440, -80.085955
Habitat	Lake
Distance to bird	Within 30 feet
Viewing conditions	Exceptional
Optical equipment used	Leica 10x42, Canon 1D Mk IV + 600mm f/4
Description	Description entered into eBird day of sighting: Smaller than ring-bills, light gray back and dark wingtips, white-headed with dark spot behind the eye and weak smudges (bands) across the crown above the spot and the eye. In flight, dark primaries on the underside, Bonaparte's-like pattern on upperwing. Dull red bill with black tip, very dull reddish legs.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	Resting on the lawn at the day use area and on the water just offshore

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

Underwing pattern distinctive, red bill and legs separate from Bonaparte's.

Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:

Bird was first seen on Nov 12 and stayed well into December. Eighth record for Butler County, all adults in basic plumage, and all at this exact spot on the south shore in late fall and early winter. This bird's continuing history at this site is as follows; the year shown is the year in which the fall season and the beginning of the winter season occurred:

1998: 5 to 28 Dec
2008: 27 Nov to 10 Dec
2011: 9 Dec to 1 Jan (2012)
2012: 2 to 3 Dec
2014: 23 to 26 Dec
2015: 8 Jan (2016) to 11 Jan (2016)
2016: 27 Nov to 10 Dec
2017: 12 Nov to 11 Dec

I uploaded photos only from 26 Dec. Also note additional eBird checklists with more photos:

<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S40897671>

<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S41018771>

Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)

Yes

During

none

After

none

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings



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[Gull_BlackHeaded_LakeArthurPA_20171126_1D4_8_E9H9688M](#)



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