

February 23, 2005

Jeff & Retta Payne
9755 Glades Pikes
Berlin PA 15530

This report circulated through the committee, twice. Both times the vote was 4-3 to accept. While this is not sufficient to accept the record it certainly does not mean it was incorrect. Even those who voted to accept the record were concerned with the sparseness of the details. The notes you provided, while obviously describing Laughing Gulls, are unfortunately, not up to the standards we wish to maintain for the permanent ornithological record of the state. They seem like field notes which are excellent supporting material but need to be accompanied by a formal description. Really if the notes were simply re-written into full sentences I think this would have satisfied all the reviewers.

Nevertheless since you have submitted the notes they will be part of the archive of unusual bird sightings and this is the real value of the records committee. Many thanks for taking the time to help document the birds you saw.

Sincerely

Matt Sharp
Chair: Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee.

Jeff & Petta Payne
Somerset Lake Jeff & Petta Payne 4-1-01

2 Laughing Gulls seen flying & feeding w/ flock ~
500 RB Gulls, 10-20 Herring Gull and 20-40 Bonapartes
↳ heads dark (most Bonnie's partial hoods), larger gulls
long bill - still fairly dark, partial eye rings, dark wing
tips top and bottom (no white) seen flying - above
and harassing other gulls + are also on water. On
2 occasions called drawn out A h h h h

10x42 Swarovski
7x42 Zeiss
+ scope

Also - Franklin's + Bonnies
also seen next day by Scott Baskin

337-01-2001

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Tabulation Form - Round One

Species: Laughing Gull (Larus atricilla)

Date of Sighting: 1 April 2001 to 1 April 2001

Location: SOMERSET LAKE

County: SOMERSET

Observer(s): Jeff Payne, Petta Payne

Date of Submission: 2001

Submitted by: Jeff Payne, Petta Payne

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

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					
E. Witmer			X					
R. Leberman			X					
M. Sharp				X				
TOTALS			4	1	2			
DECISION								

Comments: 4/3 GO TO 2ND ROUND

Signature (Secretary):



Date: 8/25/03

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round Two

Species: Laughing Gull (Larus atricilla)

Date of Sighting: 1 April 2001 to 1 April 2001

Location: SOMERSET LAKE

County : SOMERSET

Observer(s): Jeff Payne, Retta Payne

Date of Submission: 2001

Submitted by: Jeff Payne, Retta Payne

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

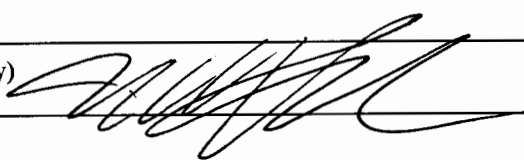
Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
G. Armistead				X				
D. Heathcote					X			
P. Hess					X			
J. Stanley			X					
E. Witmer			X					
R. Leberman			X					
M. Sharp			X					
TOTALS			4	1	2			
DECISION					X			

Comments: 4/3 =

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

2/10/04