

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
nickpulcinella@comcast.net

337-02-2005

SPECIES (common and scientific name) LAUGHING GULL *Larus atricilla*
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): Juvenile

DATE OF OBSERVATION Sept 1, 2005 TIME 10:30 AM EDT

LOCATION (city, borough, township) Upper Merioner Twp - Montgomery Co.

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) GREEN LANE RESERVOIR - CHURCH RD

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name GEORGE FRANCHOUIS

Address 911 LAKE LN

City PENNSBURG State PA ZIP 19073

e-mail (optional) _____ phone (optional) _____

ivogbill41@netcast.com

215-679-6619

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you): _____

NONE

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) RESERVOIR EDGE /
MOWED FIELD / WETLAND

DISTANCE TO BIRD AS CLOSE AS TWENTY METERS

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) _____

SUNNY

SUN POSITION 90° TO MY LEFT

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED BUSH + LOMB ELITE 8x44 BINOCULARS

SWIFT 15-60X SPOTTING SCOPE

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): _____

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

BEHAVIOR (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) interacting w. small
GROUP OF KING-BILLED GULLS (L. delawarensis) alternately flying
above then sitting on the water. Much more active than
King-bills

VOCALIZATIONS no 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 No
If collected (by permit), location of specimen if known _____

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others) from delawarensis
longer wings - dark 'armpits' from below; dark legs,
the bill was dark, heavy and deep in. Mantle darker w
much scaling present although some gray was present
for 1st winter molt.

DISCUSSION - Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it: _____
more attenuated profile on the water
more elegant flight than King-bills

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES birding for 30 years
much e. coast experience

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? (why or why not) YES

REFERENCES CONSULTED:
During observation _____
After observation Sibley

DATE OF THIS REPORT: Dec 19, 2005

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER George A. French

Laughing Gull September 1, 2005

On routine birding visit to the Church Rd area of the Green Lane Reservoir on September 1, 2005, 10:30 AM EDT, I observed a lone juvenile Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*) in a small group of Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*)...perhaps a dozen or so. Views of the bird were made both flying and on the water as close as twenty meters. Optical equipment employed were Baush and Lomb Elite 8 x 44 binoculars and a Swift 15 – 60x spotting scope. Weather was sunny.

As distinguished from Ring-billed Gull, the longer-winged, more elegant flight was apparent as were the obvious dark legs. White uppertail/rump very noticeable in contrast to black tail. On the water, its more-attenuated profile was easily ascertained. The head and face were quite dusky with no definitive hood, this duskiess extending down onto the breast and sides. The mantle was dusky gray-brown and scaly with some but not much gray feathering indicating the beginning of molt into 1st Winter plumage. The bill was dark, heavy and drooping.

Green Lane Reservoir... this portion in Upper Hanover Township, Montgomery County
Observer: George Franchois, 911 Lake Lane, Pennsburg, PA ivorybill41@netcarrier.com
Experience: birding for 36 years (many shore trips incl)
Positive ID on this bird
Date submitted: Dec 19, 2005

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Laughing Gull (Larus atricilla)

Date of Sighting: 1 September 2005 to 1 September 2005

Location: GREEN LANE RESERVOIR

County : MONTGOMERY

Observer(s): George Francois

Date of Submission: 2005

Submitted by: George Francois

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

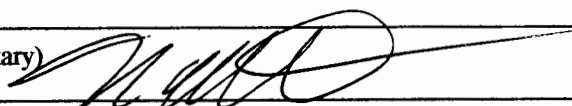
Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
R. Wiltraut			X					
A. Guarente				X				
P. Guris			X					
J. Stanley			X					
E. Witmer			X					
J. Heller			X					
M. Sharp			X					
TOTALS			6	1				
DECISION			X					

Comments: 6/1

Signature (Secretary)



Date: 7/24/06