



## 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

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SPECIES (common and scientific name:

California Gull

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

Plumage \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF OBSERVATION: May 14, 2005 TIME 1-  
5pm

LOCATION (city, borough, township)

Washington Boro, Lancaster County

PA

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road )

Conejohela Flats

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name J. Eric Witmer

Address

230 Mason Drive

City Ephrata

State PA

ZIP 17522

e-mail (optional)

phone (optional)

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

Bob Schutsky (found CA. Gull) Tom Garner, Bruce Carl, Jerry Book, Jonathan Heller, Barb and Frank Haas (photographer )

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details)

Susquehanna River shallow areas with mud bars and exposed logs

DISTANCE TO BIRD \_\_\_\_\_

250-500 ft.

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) Clear to partly cloudy, fairly windy 15mph+

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED Leica 20-40X zoom spotting scope, Questar  
(Haas)

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 intermediate between Ring-billed and Herring Gulls.

The mantle was an obvious shade darker than either of these species. It was not as dark as a Lesser Black-backed Gull. The head seemed smaller and more petit than a Herring Gull. There was no streaking on the neck area, completely white. The legs were a yellowish green. The bill was yellow with a small red area on the lower mandible near the tip with a smaller blackish mark closer to the tip (evident in photo). The eye was dark with a thin red orbital ring.

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

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

\_ primarily rested on mud bar and fallen tree log in water. Only seen very briefly in flight.

VOCALIZATIONS None

Photograph XXX Video recording \_\_\_\_\_ Audio recording \_\_\_\_\_ Drawing \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** Frank Haas

## 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.**

## General

### condition

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

**Smaller than Herring, Larger than Ring-billed, too light mantled for Lesser Black backed Gull. Photo by Frank Haas shows a" text book" adult breeding plumage California Gull**

[illegible]

**DISCUSSION** – Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:

[illegible]

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES \_Seen Years ago in California. My first in the East.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION ? (why or why  
not) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCES CONSULTED:**

During observation\_\_Sibley and National Geographic.

Wrote report with photo and memory

12/17/2005 \_\_\_\_\_

After observation \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF THIS REPORT: \_\_12/17/05 \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER J. Eric

Witmer \_\_\_\_\_



## Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology

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**California Gull, 5/14/2005, Conejehola Flats, Lancaster County, Photo by Frank Haas.**



# Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

## Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: California Gull (Larus californicus)

Date of Sighting: 14 May 2005 to 14 May 2005

Location: WASHINGTON BORO

County : LANCASTER

Observer(s): Bob Shutsky et al

Date of Submission: 2005

Submitted by: Frank Haas, Eric Witmer

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

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	7							
DECISION	X							

Comments: 7/10

Signature (Secretary)



Date: 7/24/06