



375-01-2005

## 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) SOOTY TERN  
 Subspecies, if known \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 SEX(ES) (ADULT)

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): \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF OBSERVATION 7/24/2005 TIME 2:00-3:45 PM (5 sightings)

LOCATION (city, borough, township) WASHINGTON BORO, LANCASTER COUNTY, PA

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) CONETOHELA 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): BRUCE CARL  
From shore J. BOOK, T. AMICO, J. HELLER

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) SLOW Moving River adjacent Mudbars

DISTANCE TO BIRD 75 yds +

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

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED 10x40 Binoculars / 20x+ Scope / 400mm Camera

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 SEE DISTINCTIVE PHOTOS

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

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

Slowly Flying Around River, seemed to see what other Gulls were feeding on in Area. Seen only in Flight

VOCALIZATIONS NONE

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph ☒ Video recording ☐ Audio recording ☐ Drawing ☐

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:

Name ERIC WITMER

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others) \_\_\_\_\_

DARK nape + Collar eliminate Bridled Tern

DISCUSSION - Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it: \_\_\_\_\_

HURRICANE DEMNIS went up Thru Midwest USA about 1 week previous to sighting. Most likely displaced by this Storm and Tracking back to Atlantic Ocean via the SUSQUEHANNA RIVER.

Photos (2) note @ 400mm. Then Blown up

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES Seen once before in Conjoletta Flats area after Hurricane Isabelle. Seen Thousands of SOOTY TERNS @ Dry Tortugas, FLA

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

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation \_\_\_\_\_

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

DATE OF THIS REPORT: 12/3/05

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER [Signature]

This bird was observed during a scheduled Shorebird Survey  
FOR SAFE HARBOR DAM

# Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

## Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Sooty Tern (Sterna fuscata)

Date of Sighting: 24 July 2005 to 24 July 2005

Location: WASHINGTON BORO

County : LANCASTER

Observer(s): E. Witmer, B. Carl, J Book, T Amico, J. Heller

Date of Submission: 2005

Submitted by: Eric Witmer

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

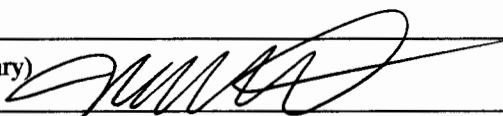
Specimen: No

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:

7/24/05