

SOOTY TERN

Date: 8/28/2011

Location: Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co., PA

Observer: George Armistead.

optics used: 10 x 42 Leica binoculars, 25-55x Leica telescope.

2 Adults. Both appeared first in NJ waters but then crossed into PA waters. 1st one was seen at 12:30pm heading north, under the Ben Franklin Bridge >1km; a 2nd bird @ 1:35pm seen south of Penn's Landing's Seaport Museum ~1.5km, eventually headed south. Both were seen for about 2 minutes, initially spotted and identified using binoculars and then studied well through the scope. Both were adults, and rather sturdy looking terns, strong fliers, dark blackish above through the shortish tail, with small white forehead patches, and bright white below.