

PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE  
2469 Hammertown Road  
Narvon, PA 17555

September 25, 1997

Kevin Crilley  
1759 Swamp Creek Road  
Po Box 108  
Sumneytown, PA 18084

Dear Kevin,

Thank you for submitting documentation on the Least Tern you saw at Green Lane Reservoir on 1 June 1995 to P.O.R.C. This record circulated the committee two times and after careful review, we regret that we are unable to accept this record. The committee was concerned that the written description lacked sufficient details to support the identification. Some members felt that the description of the bill did not mention a black tip and that there was no mention of black in the primaries visible when in flight.

This of course, does not mean the bird was not a Least Tern, merely, that the record is not beyond reasonable doubt for acceptance

We hope that this does not discourage you from submitting documentation on any rare birds you find in the future. Please be encouraged to send as much detail as possible when submitting a report.

Sincerely,

Nick Pulcinella  
Chairman

Record # 372-01-1995

SUPPORTING DETAILS: UNCOMMON OR RARE SPECIES AND/OR SPECIES IN HIGH NUMBERS

COUNT 1  
CBC name MONTGOMERY date 6-1-95 Compiler G.L. Freed

Observer writing this account and date Kevin Grilley July 17, 1995

SPECIES Least Tern NUMBER, AGE, SEX 2 - adult - sex unknown

Distance from bird(s) 50-75 m Relative size of bird smaller than Forster's Tern  
larger than Purple Martin

HEAD & NECK (Describe forehead, crown, auricular, malar region, median line, etc.)  
forehead white, crown ~~black~~ and nape black

EYE & LORES (Describe supercilium, ring, stripe, color, etc.) black eye line  
from base of upper mandible to crown

UPPER & LOWER MANDIBLES yellow

LEGS & FEET not observed - birds seen in flight

UPPERPARTS (Describe nape, back, rump, upper tail coverts, etc.)  
crown + nape black, remainder of gray

UNDERPARTS (Describe throat, belly, side, flanks, crissum, etc.)  
white

RECTRICES (Describe inner, middle, outer tail feathers, color pattern, shape, etc.)  
tail forked

WING (Describe color, length, shape, linings, bars, coverts, leading and trailing edges, etc.) long, pointed, narrow white below gray-white above

VOCALIZATION none

BEHAVIOR birds seen flying over lake and diving into water at intervals

Date of observation 1 June Time 1815+ Weather partly sunny Sky cover ?

Duration of observation 20 mins. Bird - Sun orientation sun descending in west, observers looking S-SW @ birds

Exact location Church Rd GLR

Habitat shallow cove of GLR Other observers G. Francois, R. Grubb

Optical equipment 8.5x44 Swift +  
20x50 bushnell scope

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS birds originally seen at described by M. Phillips -  
at rest on log ± 30 meters from observer said to have  
yellow bills, white foreheads noticeably smaller than Forster's Tern "

AN ACCOMPANYING SKETCH OR PHOTOGRAPH CAN BE AN EXCELLENT FURTHER DOCUMENTATION

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 2 of 2

Species: Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*)

Date of Sighting: 1 June 1995 to 1 June 1995

Location: GREEN LANE RESERVOIR

County: MONTGOMERY

Observer(s): Gary Freed

Date of Submission: 1995

Submitted by: Gary Freed

Written Description: YES Photo: NO Specimen: NO

Recording: NONE

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas			X					
N. Pulcinella			X					
E. Kwater							X	
R. Ickes				X				
G. McWilliams				X				
P. Schwalbe			X					
S. Feldstein				X				
TOTALS			3	3			1	
DECISION				X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

*F. C. Haas*

Date:

2-22-97

**Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee**

**Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of**

Species: **Least Tern (Sterna antillarum)**

Date of Sighting: **1 June 1995 to 1 June 1995**

Location: **GREEN LANE RESERVOIR**

County: **MONTGOMERY**

Observer(s): **Gary Freed**

Date of Submission: **1995**

Submitted by: **Gary Freed**

Written Description: **YES**      Photo: **NO**      Specimen: **NO**

Recording: **NONE**

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas			X					
N. Pulcinella			X					
E. Kwater							X	
R. Ickes			X					
G. McWilliams				X				
P. Schwalbe			X					
S. Feldstein			X					
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>1</b>	
<b>DECISION</b>								

Comments:

*Send for second Round*

Signature (Secretary):

*J. C. Haas*

Date:

*5-1-96*