

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2018-03-25 00:11:39
Observer's Name	Devich Farbotnik
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Phone	6105041715
Observer's Address	P.O. Box 135 Revere PA 18953 United States
Species (Common Name)	Least Tern
Species (Scientific Name)	<i>Sternula antillarum</i>
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	adult
Observation Date and Time	05-07-2016 10:30 AM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Not yet (please do, eBird is great!)
County	Bucks
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Bensalem
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Delaware River just upstream from the Philadelphia County line
Habitat	river
Distance to bird	300 feet at the closest point
Viewing conditions	cloudy
Optical equipment used	Leica 10x42 binoculars, Leica APO Televid 77
Description	<p>I had just received a phone call from Jason Horn when I arrived at the river on the New Jersey side (It's a better view from that side) to see what was around. We were chatting as I got out of my truck, walked over to the river and got to a spot where I had a good view. When I got there, I first looked down river naked eyed and spotted a small white bird flying upstream. I got it in the binoculars and immediately saw that it was a Least Tern! I said to Jason something like "Holy s--, I gotta go." and grabbed my camera. I got about 40 pictures as it came past me, headed over to the PA side and continued upstream. After it went out of sight, I tried to relocate it but never saw it again. In the photos the yellow bill, white forehead and black primaries on the leading edge of the wing are visible</p>

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

Typical tern behavior, flying over the water.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

Small size, yellow bill, white forehead and black primaries eliminate everything else

Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:

This won't help with the record but it was one of those days where it felt like it was meant to be. I was supposed to lead a bird walk at the Van Sciver Lakes at 8AM that day. I arrived 5-10 minutes early and thought it was odd that nobody was there. Typically they have coffee and donuts ahead of time while people are arriving. It turned out that the trip had been cancelled and they didn't let me know! If that trip had happened, I would've been busy with that and never would've seen the tern!

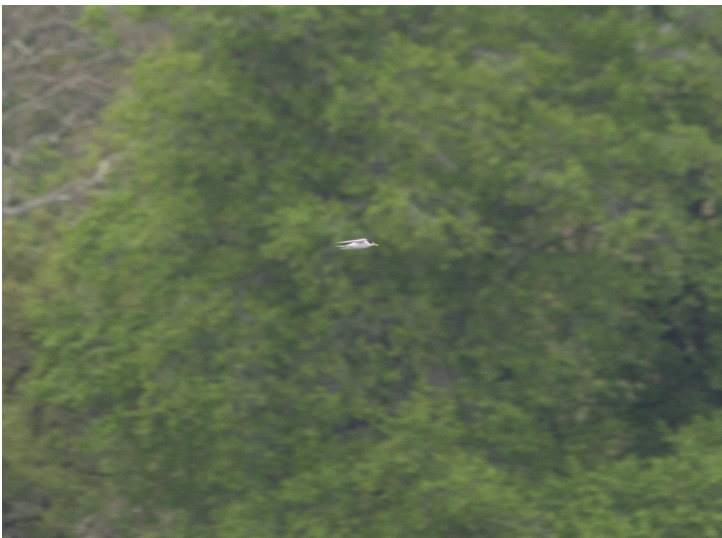
Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)

yes

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings



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