

PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

**2459 Hammertown Road
Narvon, Pennsylvania 17555-9726**

10 July 1995

John C. Miller
1220 Prospect Avenue
Prospect Park, PA. 19076

Dear John,

Thank you for submitting details on the Gull-billed Terns you saw at Tinicum NWR, Delaware County on 19 August 1992 to P.O.R.C. After careful review and discussion, we regret that we are unable to accept this record. The committee felt that the description was too brief in detail for an adequate determination to be made. This does not mean of course that they were not Gull-billed Terns, merely that the details did not allow for a concrete determination.

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.

Sincerely,

Nick Pulcinella
Chairman

Record # 362-01-1992

P.S. John, you might want to consider resubmitting this with more detail. Also, do you have anything to send the committee on the Anhinga ?

362-01-1992

GULL-BILLED TERN IN PENNSYLVANIA

JOHN C. MILLER

Three birds were seen at close range on August 19, 1992 at the Tinicum Wildlife Refuge, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There were two adults with one young bird of the year.

All field marks were well seen; all black bill and black feet. The adults gave their sharp Kay-Wach call note, also.

Flying near by these birds were a few Forster's Terns. The difference in flight was also noticed. The Gull-Billed Tern has a more butterfly flight.

I had my pair of 9 X 35 Bausch & Lomb glasses. I am well familiar with this tern. I have seen many of these birds in many states and have banded young birds in New Jersey.

This may be the first record for the state of Pennsylvania.

John C. Miller

1220 Prospect Avenue

Prospect Park, Pennsylvania 19076

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 2 of 2

Species: Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*)

Date of Sighting: 19 August 1992 to 19 August 1992

Location: TINICUM NWR

County: DELAWARE

Observer(s): John Miller

Date of Submission: 1994

Submitted by: John Miller

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					
J. Skinner				X				
TOTALS			1	6				
DECISION				X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F. C. Haas

Date:

3-31-95