



PENNSYLVANIA RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

SPECIES: Royal Tern *Sterna maxima*

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS: 1 **SEX:** Unknown

AGE AND PLUMAGE: Adult non-breeding

DATE & TIME OF OBSERVATION: Aug. 28, 2011 (3:30 PM).

LOCATION: Middletown Twp., Bucks Co, PA

EXACT SITE: Core Creek County Park; seen from the boat rental near the dam.

OBSERVER REPORTING:

William J. Keim

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Upper Holland, PA 19053

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OTHER OBSERVERS: None.

HABITAT: The deep end of Lake Luxembourg near the dam.

DISTANCE TO BIRD: 100 feet.

VIEWING CONDITIONS: The end of hurricane Irene; cloudy, light rain showers, very windy.

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED: Swarovski EL 8.5 x 42 binoculars.

DESCRIPTION: Slightly smaller than the Caspian Terns at the same spot, and slimmer, with pale gray upperparts, white underparts, black on the trailing upper edge of wingtips; large (but slimmer than Caspian) yellow-orange bill; black band from eye to back of head; white forehead becoming smudgy grayish near the back of the head; slight shaggy crest at the back of the head.

BEHAVIOR: Flying and fishing for several minutes in the company of 2 Caspian Terns.

VOCALIZATIONS: None noted.

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE: None.

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES: Differs from Caspian Tern by smaller, slimmer body, slimmer and more orange bill, more apparent crest, white forehead and more extensive white on the crown.

DISCUSSION: None

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE: I have observed many Royal Terns of various ages and plumages on numerous occasions in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland.

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? Yes, I can see no other reasonable candidate.

REFERENCES CONSULTED: After observation: Sibley Guide to Birds.

DATE OF THIS REPORT: Aug. 31, 2011.

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER: William J. Keim

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Royal Tern Sterna maxima

Date of Sighting: 28 August 2011 to 28 August 2011

County : BUCKS

Location : CORE CREEK PARK

Observer(s): William Keim

Date of Submission: 2011

Submitted by: William Keim

Written Description: Yes

Photo: ~~No~~ YES

Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
D. DeReamus	X							
A. Guarente								
T. Johnson	X							
B. Coulter	X		X					
R. Koury			X					
D. Weber		X						
G. Malosh	X							
TOTALS	4	1	1					
DECISION	X							

Comments: 7/0

Signature (Secretary) Nick Pulcinella

Date: 7/11/12