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279

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PENNSYLVANIA RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

This form is presented as a convenience and guide. It can be used if desired, but is not necessary for submitting a report. Species requiring documentation are those on the Review List or not on the Official List of Birds of Pennsylvania.

Send documentation to:

Nick Pulcinella, Secretary
Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee
613 Howard Ave.
West Chester, PA 19380
nickpulcinella@verizon.net

SPECIES (common and scientific name) Royal Tern, *Sterna maxima* _____

Subspecies (if known) _____

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 SEX(ES) n/a

AGE(S) AND PLUMAGE(S) (e.g. immature; adult in breeding plumage; year for gulls; basic or alternate if you prefer those terms; state of molt if applicable): Adult Basic plumage _____

DATE OF OBSERVATION Sunday, August 28, 2011 TIME 10:21 am

LOCATION (city, borough, township) Bristol borough, Bucks County, Pennsylvania _____

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) Parking area along the Delaware river off Radcliffe Street opposite Monroe Street _____

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name Gerard Dewaghe

Address 154 Lowell Court

City -- Langhorne State PA ZIP 19047

e-mail (optional) gdewaghe@comcast.net phone (optional) 215-752-1668

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you):

Christine Dewaghe _____

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) On Delaware river _____

DISTANCE TO BIRD 300-400 feet _____

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) Cloudy, intermittent rain ,squalls with strong wind _____

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED: Swarovski 8.5x42 and Canon 7D w/ 500mm lens and converter (no scope used due to strong wind conditions).

DESCRIPTION (Include as much detail as you observed -- size relative to other species present; "jizz"= e.g. posture, body shape, and proportions; colors and patterns of plumage; bill, eye, and leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual): bird seen flying South at the middle of the Delaware River with other terns present nearby -- Forster's tern (*Sterna forsteri*) and Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*).

Size: bird much larger than *Sterna* terns present in the same area

Color and pattern: bill, deep orange, strongly receding black cap mantle and body plain gray, dark primaries on the upper surface, dark tips to the secondaries, underwing pattern pale grey with thin dark border to the primaries

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

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

Behavior was limited to one flight going down river. bird was in view less than one minute. No attempt was made to follow the bird down river.

VOCALIZATIONS

: No vocalization were noted _____

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph Yes Video recording No Audio recording No Drawing No

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:

Name Gerard Dewaghe

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

e-mail (optional) _____ phone (optional) _____

Please include a copy of the photograph or recording with your report, and accompany it with a complete written documentation if the identification is obvious to you. If you made a drawing, please include it.

IF THIS IS A DEAD BIRD:

General condition _____

If collected (by permit), location and number of specimen if known _____

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others) Most likely tern species to be confused with: Caspian tern (*Sterna caspia*) eliminated due to strong presence dark primaries on upper wing surface, lack of dark underside to primaries and lack of dark cap.

DISCUSSION – Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES

Familiar with species along the New Jersey shore

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION ? (why or why not) Certain of my identification.

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation NONE

After observation National Geographic Field guide

DATE OF THIS REPORT: December 28, 2011

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER

Gerard R. Dewaghe

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 : BRISTOL

Observer(s): Gerard Dewaghe

Date of Submission: 2011

Submitted by: Gerard Dewaghe

Written Description: Yes

Photo: 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	X							
T. Johnson	X							
B. Coulter	X							
R. Koury	X							
D. Weber			X					
G. Malosh	X							
TOTALS	6		1					
DECISION	X							

Comments: 7/0

Signature (Secretary) Nick Pulcinella

Date: 7/11/12