**Submission Date** 2012-12-19 20:12:29 **Observer's Name** Tom Johnson E-mail tbj4@cornell.edu Phone 7175669875 Observer's Address Street Address: 24 Meadowood Drive City: Hummelstown State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 17036 Country: United States Names of additional Thomas Johnson observers **Species (Common Name)** Parasitic Jaeger **Species (Scientific Name)** Stercorarius parasiticus Number of individuals 1 Have you submitted this to Yes eBird? **Observation Date and Time** 10-30-2012 7:00 AM Philadelphia County Location (City, Borough, Philadelphia Township) Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, Pennypack on the Delaware lake, road) **GPS** coordinates of sighting 40.025197,-75.0129318 **Habitat** river Distance to bird 100 meters Viewing conditions overcast, some light rain on/ off Optical equipment used Swarovski scope, Leica Ultravid Description Cameron Rutt spotted this bird floating downriver. It was clearly a jaeger by its size (like a small-medium gull) and pattern of dark/ light contrast. The back and wings were dark slaty-brown, almost brown-black. After careful scope study, we identified this bird as a subadult Parasitic Jaeger by its tidy dark cap that started near the top of the base of the bill and swept back to the top of the nape, more restricted in shape than Pomarine Jaeger would be at a comparable age. The bill was slim (and parallel-sided) and the head

appeared very small relative to the body, good

Parasitic traits. The pale, whitish throat blended into a smooth, darker gray nape. The flanks appeared to be marked weakly with dark bars. Tail details were not observed. Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird Floating downriver. It never flew. was doing) Separation from similar Pomarine laeger was eliminated by cap pattern and species (How you eliminated size/ shape of head and bill. This was too stout and dark above to be a subadult Long-tailed Jaeger. others) Are you positive of your Yes - good scope views. I've studied several hundred identification? (Why or why (probably >1000) of each species of jaeger on the not) coast, at sea, and on the breeding grounds). Photos are suggestive (not sure they're diagnostic though). **During** None After None Supporting evidence (check Photograph all that apply) Upload images, audio, video MG 8422.jpg or drawings MG 8423.jpg

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