

Submission Date	2014-08-25 22:21:06
Observer's Name	Brian Quindlen
E-mail	brian.quindlen@gmail.com
Phone	4843568435
Observer's Address	Street Address: 5 Winding Way City: Malvern State / Province: Pennsylvania Postal / Zip Code: 19355 Country: United States
Names of additional observers	Andrew Leidig, Mike Defina, Chad Hutchinson
Species (Common Name)	Long-tailed Jaeger
Species (Scientific Name)	Stercorarius longicaudus
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Immature
Observation Date and Time	08-25-2014 7:00 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S19574839
County	Chester
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Malvern, Willistown Township
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Rushton Farm
GPS coordinates of sighting	39.985682, -75.486020
Habitat	Flyover
Distance to bird	Roughly 500 feet above our party.
Viewing conditions	Clear evening with sunny skies and few clouds.
Optical equipment used	Swarovski Swarovision EL 12x50 Binoculars
Description	The bird was first called out as a Common Nighthawk from someone in our party as that was an expected flyover that was earlier observed in our walk. As the bird became closer, the overall impression of the bird reminded us of a gull

showing a very steady and slow flight pattern with short, slow, and shallow wing beats. The long, narrow wings, overall dark coloration, noticeable head and bill size and shape, and subtle white patches on the underwing were evident as the bird came directly overhead. Andrew called out, "Long-tailed Jaeger" as it passed, and I began to snap photos with my phone. The bird slowly flew above us in a straight path heading west. All four of us clearly observed the bird for about 30-45 seconds.

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

The bird was flying in a straight and steady path with shallow, slow, and short wing beats. The bird steadily flapped as it passed over heading west.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

The lack of defined white wing bars and slow, steady flight, and noticeable head and bill size and shape led us to believe it was not a Common Nighthawk. We further researched in the field and could not find any photos online or in field guides of adult or immature Common Nighthawks lacking defined white wing bars. The overall dark coloration of the bird led us to believe it was not a gull since we could not think of any east coast gulls that would exhibit a combination of a large amount of dark coloration and long, narrow wings.

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

Andrew Leidig, one of the members of our party, initially identified this bird was a Long-tailed Jaeger. Having seen two of these birds on a pelagic tour two days prior, I am confident in identifying a jaeger species but not as confident in separating by species in the field as Andrew. After reviewing a field guide, the overall brown coloration, long and narrow wings, and subtle white patches on the underwing led me to the identification of Long-tailed Jaeger.

During

iBird Pro App, Audubon Birds App, Google Images

After

Sibley Guide, ID that PA Bird! Pennsylvania Bird Identification Facebook Group, other birders with pelagic experience

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings



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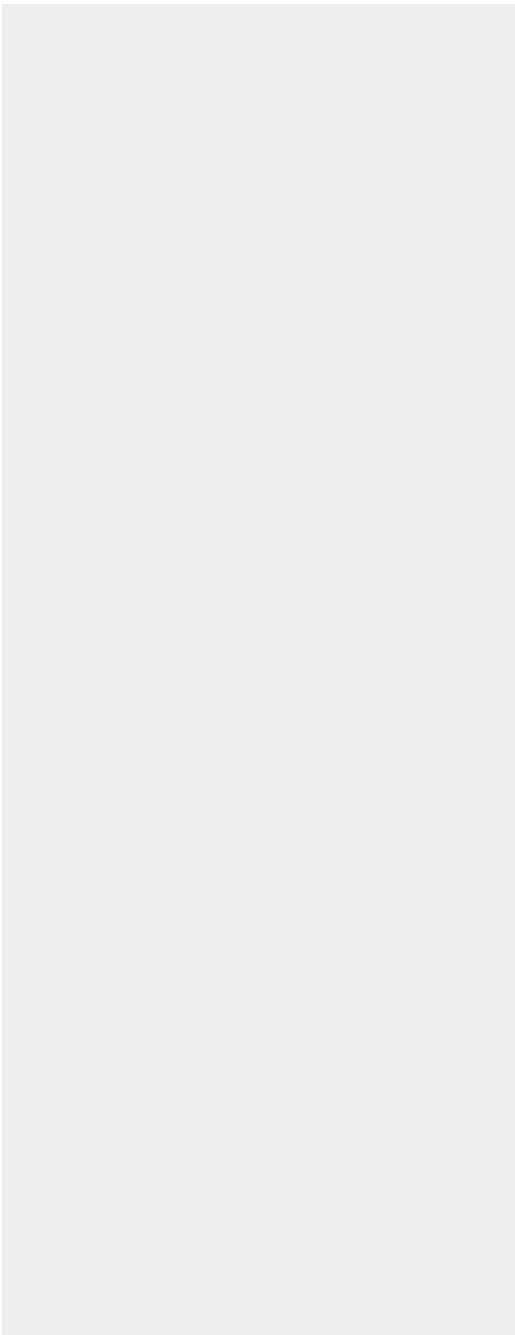
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