

On Sunday October 19, 1986, while hiking alone on Gull point - P.I.S.P., I flushed a Common Ground Dove (Columbina passerina) from a small tuft of grass on sand dunes. The bird flew a short distance and landed, repeated this, and finally flew off.

The most striking features were the dove's small size, short tail, and rufous primaries. The bill was pinkish with a dark base on the lower mandible. The legs were also pinkish. Basic plumage was brownish, appearing scaly along the back of the neck. The tail feathers were black; no white spots were noted in the outer feathers during flight.

When first seen the bird was about ten feet away. Although not necessarily wary, the dove seemed timid and secretive. Lighting was excellent (late afternoon sun). Observations were made with 7x50 binoculars, twice on the ground, three times during flight. Observation time was less than five minutes, mostly at distances of twenty-five feet or less.

Having lived in the southwest (Arizona) for several years I am quite familiar with this species as well as others which occur there. Excellent looks assured me of the identification of this bird.

Sam Stull

Record No.: 418-01-1986

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # of

Species: Common Ground Dove

Date of Sighting: Oct 19, 1986

Observer(s): Sam Stull

Date of Submission: 1990

Submitted by: Sam Stull

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V		
					A	B	C
E. Kwater			X				
B. Haas			X				
F. Haas			X				
R. Leberman			X				
G. McWilliams			X				
S. Santner			X				
P. Schwalbe			X				
TOTALS			7				
DECISION			X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary): *B. Haas*

Date: 11-10-90