

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2017-11-04 14:42:44
Observer's Name	Bruce McNaught
E-mail	bmcnaught@epix.net
Phone	5705331790
Observer's Address	1322 Williams Pond Road New Milford PA 18834 United States
Names of additional observers	Nancy Wottrich, Bill Tinsman, Willy Tinsman, Dave Andre, Evan Mann, Julia Mann, Jerry Skinner, Rick Koval
Species (Common Name)	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Species (Scientific Name)	Tyrannus Forficatus
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	The length of the tail and absence of any pink wash on the underside led observers to believe they were likely looking at a young bird.
Observation Date and Time	05-12-2014 8:30 AM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S18354296
County	Susquehanna
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Bridgewater Township
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Each side of Williams Pond Road; initially at spotted at Fisher's house, then around McNaught property, then on powerlines along driveway, later in the day on powerlines across the road; slowly moving north over the course of the day.
GPS coordinates of sighting	N41 51'24.97" W75 48'19.82"
Habitat	Open early growth hay fields perched either on wire fences, fence posts, or power lines.
Distance to bird	Initially 25 yards; approx. 50 yards for photos; then 200 yards when scoped across the road in the afternoon.
Viewing conditions	Clear, spring weather

Optical equipment used	Multiple binoculars, three different spotting scopes, Canon SX-10 Powershot, Canon SX-50
Description	Bruce was initially inside the neighbors having breakfast when he spotted the bird through the window in the orchard outside. His first thought was northern mockingbird which is not that common in this county. Then he noted the light grey head and back, pale front, dark eye, bill, and legs. The wings were dark and the tail was longer than expected for a NOMO. Having seen STFL in New Mexico, he realized what he was looking at.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	The bird remained on the property or in the vicinity, and in view from about 8:30 am to almost dark at 6:30-7:00 pm. During that time it sallied for insects. Flew from perch to perch with a very flycatcher-like flight pattern.
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	The giveaway was tail length and the pale coloration. While the tail was longer than NOMO, it was not that exaggerated length of a mature adult STFL (see photos).
Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:	<p>http://ebird.org/ebird/pa/view/checklist/S18356155 http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S18360463 (with photo attached)</p> <p>There are about two dozen photos that were taken of the bird that are available for the asking.</p> <p>This report is submitted by Evan Mann for Bruce McNaught the first to see and recognize the species.</p>
Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)	Yes. Bruce and Nancy had prior experience seeing this species. Identification was obvious to them and subsequent observers who responded to their phone calls about the sighting.
During	Bruce used his Nat Geo field guide during the day, mainly to show visitors the range map for the species.
Supporting evidence (check all that apply)	Photograph

Upload images, audio, video
or drawings



[IMG_5755.jpg](#)



[IMG_5762-1.jpg](#)

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