

699-01-1991

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE  
(Lanius ludovicianus)

Date: March 31, 1991

Location: Gull Point on Presque Isle State Park

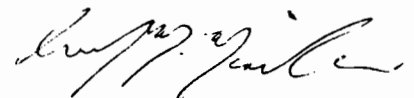
Viewing time: periodically between 8:45 AM and 9:15 AM

Weather: mostly clear (some cirrus clouds), wind southwesterly  
to approximately 10 mph, temperature 27°F

Optical equipment: Zeiss Dyalyt 10 X 40 Binocular and 25X Bush-  
nell Spacemaster Spotting Scope.

Observers: Joyce Hoffmann, Jerry McWilliams, Walt Schaeffer, Boris  
Weitzmann, and his friend Dave.

Description: While walking towards the east entrance of the bird sanctuary, Joyce Hoffmann spotted a shrike perched in a tree about 100' ahead of us. As soon as she said "shrike" it flew across a pond and landed in the top of a small Cottonwood and before I could set my scope up it flew down into some Bayberry bushes. We walked around the pond and it flushed landing again in a nearby Cottonwood. We were able to get 2 spotting scopes on the bird before it flew. It was identified as a shrike by the horizontal perching profile, grey back and head with a black facial patch, black wings and tail with white outer rectrices, and whitish-grey under parts. I identified the shrike as a Loggerhead by the following characteristics; the bird appeared slim and large-headed. When the bird turned its head showing the side of its face, the shape and size of the bill could easily be seen. It was entirely black including the lower mandible, and was stubby being widest at its' base and tapering to a blunt tip. The upper mandible was only slightly hooked and barely reached past the tip of the lower mandible. Northern Shrike have a longer and heavier bill which is basically the same width to at least mid-way on the bill. The upper mandible tapers to a strong hook which reaches well below the tip of the lower mandible. The base of the lower mandible is usually pale in Northern Shrike. The facial patch of the Loggerhead was wide and began behind the eye and was generally the same thickness to the base of the upper mandible. Northern Shrike has a thinner patch that narrows and droops slightly where it meets the upper mandible. I could not clearly see the black extending over the top of the bill. The mantle, nape, and head were medium grey with the head appearing slightly darker. Northern Shrike is lighter grey on the mantle with the nape and the head appearing slightly paler than the mantle. The rump was not seen which is usually darker than in Northern Shrike. It did not pump its tail like Northern Shrike, but did appear to jerk it slightly in many directions to keep itself balanced on its perch. I have seen many Loggerhead Shrikes throughout the southern United States and in Erie Co.. I am also familiar with Northern Shrike since they winter in Erie Co. every year. I studied a Northern Shrike for at least 30 minutes near Edinboro just yesterday.



Gerald M. McWilliams

**Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee**

**Voting Tabulation - Round # of**

Species: **Loggerhead Shrike**

Date of Sighting: **March 31, 1991**

Observer(s): **Jerry McWilliams**

Date of Submission: **1991 Eric**

Submitted by: **Jerry McWilliams**

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				
<b>TOTALS</b>			7				
<b>DECISION</b>			X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

*B. Haas*

Date:

8-15-91