

597-01-1995

Rare or Unusual Bird Sighting Observance

Observers Names	Gary and Karen Campbell
Observers Address & Phone	2717 Valley Woods Road, Hatfield, PA 19440 (215) 997-1297
Observations Recording	By same on April 30, 1995
Date of Observation	April 29, 1995
Time	Approximately 5:30 PM
Weather	60-65°F, no noticeable wind
Sky	Mostly clear
Duration of Observation	2 minutes
Bird-Sun Orientation	Sun was below tree level to observers but bird was in the sun from the side
Exact Location	<u>Montgomery County, PA in Wissahickon Valley Watershed next to asbestos mound. Closest town is Ambler and nearest major intersection is Butler Pike & Morris Road.</u>
Habitat	In the air along the boundary of a wooded creek and the asbestos site which is mostly open with some secondary growth.
Other Observers	Jamie Stewart
Optical Equipment	Bausch & Lomb Customs 10 X 40 for both observers
Species	Common Raven
Number	One
Distance from Bird	Seen in flight above us and slightly to the side, approximately 80 feet.
Size and Shape	Seen in flight with an American Crow. The Bird was approximately 20% larger than the crow overall, i.e. wing span and length. The general shape was similar to that of the crow except as noted below.
Head & Neck	Compared to the crow, the Bird had a heavier neck, especially toward the base with a noticeable "lump" toward base of upper mandible.
Upper & Lower Mandibles	Black without any markings
Legs & Feet	Black
Upperparts	Black without any markings
Underparts	Black without any markings
Retrices	Black without any markings. Compared to crow, the tail was noticeably wider at the base (by approximately 50%) and in most flight positions was flared even wider toward the tip. Inner retrices were longer than outer creating an overall elongated diamond shape to tail. The triangular shape of the tail tip was not pointed but was round or even a bit blunt at the center.
Wing	Black without any markings. Wings longer than that of crow, but seemed slightly wider as well with pronounced emargination of the primaries.
Vocalization	Heard before seen. Dry hoarse croaking similar to "kruk". It vocalized 2-3 times. The crow was also being vocal.
Behavior	The Bird was trying to avoid an American Crow that was harassing it. It glided in circles with an occasional flap.

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: Common Raven (Corvus corax)

Date of Sighting: 29 April 1995 to 29 April 1995

Location: WHITPAIN TWP

County: MONTGOMERY

Observer(s): Gary & Karen Campbell

Date of Submission: 1995

Submitted by: Gary & Karen Campbell

Written Description: YES Photo: NO Specimen: NO

Recording: NONE

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas			X					
N. Pulcinella			X					
E. Kwater								X
R. Ickes			X					
G. McWilliams			X					
P. Schwalbe			X					
S. Feldstein			X					
TOTALS			6					1
DECISION			X					

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F. C. Haas

Date:

5-1-96