

PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE
613 Howard Road, West Chester, PA 19380

28 February 2003

Linda A. Miller
11792 Cole Road
Atlantic, PA 16111

Dear Linda,

Thank you for submitting documentation of the Sedge Wren on 21 October 2000 at East Fallowfield Township. After careful review, the Committee has voted not to accept this record.

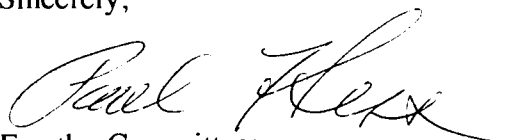
The members were divided in their opinions, and the balloting went two rounds before a final vote of one in favor of acceptance and six not in favor.

The member who favored acceptance commented, "The observer notes a buffy bird with barring in the primaries and secondaries and a streaked crown, which fit Sedge much better than Marsh."

Those who voted against accepting the record felt that the description, while indicative of Sedge Wren in some respects, did not rule out Marsh Wren conclusively. I am enclosing my own analysis so that you can see my personal line of thinking.

Let me emphasize that our decision does not necessarily imply that the bird was not a Sedge Wren, but simply that the Committee felt that acceptance required more unequivocal evidence. We hope that our non-acceptance in this case will not discourage you from submitting reports on any future rarities you find.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Hess", written in dark ink.

For the Committee:
Paul Hess, Chair

Record No. 625-01-2000

RARE BIRD REPORT

Species: Sedge Wren Date of this Observation: Oct. 21-00Date Found: 10/21/00 Last Date Seen: 10/21/00Location: Cole Rd.Township/City: East Fallowfield Atlantic County: CrawfordPerson Writing this report: Linda A MillerAddress: 11792 Cole Rd. Atlantic Pa. 16111Phone: NoneOther Observers: NoneWho found the bird first: Linda A Miller

Other documentation Included: (Circle all appropriate items)(Make sure all attached items are fully labeled)

Photograph

Audio Recording

Video Recording

If a Specimen, where is it stored? _____

Description: (Attach additional pages as needed—Please do not write on back of this form)

I was walking through the marshy area beside our pond at 1:30 P.M. when a bird flushed from the tall grass almost under my feet. I was instantly alerted to the fact this might be a life bird for me by its' alarm call, - a sharp "Chap," and its' conspicuous flight, a stiff fluttery wingbeat. I located it again in a shrub 15 ft. away. I instantly saw it was a wren and the white eyebrow stripe reminded me of a Carolina Wren but was definitely not a Carolina. It was much smaller and I had never before seen a wren with white streaks on its' back. I observed it for about 30 min. as it hopped from twig to twig and then down to the understory to forage. I was using Bushnell Natureview 8X42 Binoculars. It was a clear sunny day with temperature in the 50's. I noticed its' streaked crown and white streaks on back. It had a short cocked tail. (longer than a Winter Wren but shorter than the House Wren) It had a white eyebrow stripe & buffy flanks. Barring on upper tail and upper tail coverts - Also on primaries and secondaries. Buff undertail coverts. A long darkish slightly curved bill. I didn't have my field guide with me. but was almost certain it was a sedge wren. Later I confirmed it by recalling the streaked crown and buff undertail coverts.

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Tabulation Form - Round Two

Species: Sedge Wren (Cistothorus platensis)

Date of Sighting: 21 October 2000 to 21 October 2000

Location: EAST FALLOWFIELD TWP.

County: CRAWFORD

Observer(s): Linda Miller

Date of Submission: 2000

Submitted by: Linda Miller

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

Specimen: No

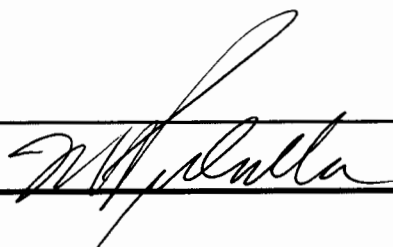
Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
G. Armistead			X					
D. Heathcote D. Couchman					X			
P. Hess					X			
J. Stanley				X				
B. Reid						X		
R. Leberman						X		
M. Sharp				X				
TOTALS			1	2	2	2		
DECISION					X			

Comments:

1/6

Signature (Secretary):



Date:

12/28/02

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Tabulation Form - Round One

Species: Sedge Wren (Cistothorus platensis)

Date of Sighting: 21 October 2000 to 21 October 2000

Location: EAST FALLOWFIELD TWP.

County: CRAWFORD

Observer(s): Linda Miller

Date of Submission: 2000

Submitted by: Linda Miller

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
G. Armistead			X					
D. Couchman			X					
P. Hess					X			
R. Jones J. STANLEY			X					
B. Reid						X		
B. Leberman P. Rodewald						X		
M. Sharp			X					
TOTALS			4		1	2		
DECISION								

Comments: 4/3/0 - Go to 2ND ROUND

Signature (Secretary):

Date: 11/4/01