

PENNSYLVANIA RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

This form is presented as a convenience and guide. It can be used if desired, but is not necessary for submitting a report. Species requiring documentation are those on the Review List or not on the Official List of Birds of Pennsylvania. Send documentation to:

Nick Pulcinella, Secretary
 Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee
 613 Howard Ave.
 West Chester, PA 19380
 nickpul@bellatlantic.net

625-02-2002

SPECIES (common and scientific name) Sedge Wren Cistothorus platensis
 Subspecies, if known _____

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 SEX(ES) male - (singing)

AGE(S) AND PLUMAGE(S) (e.g. immature; adult in breeding plumage; year for gulls; basic or alternate if you prefer those terms; state of molt if applicable): ADULT

DATE OF OBSERVATION MAY 26~~01~~, 2002 TIME 6:30 a.m. DST

LOCATION (city, borough, township) WEST TOWNSHIP, HUNTINGDON COUNTY

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) SR 1008 - near ^{Village} ~~farm~~ of Cottage

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name Greg Grove
 Address R.D. 1 Box 483
 City Petersburg State Pa ZIP 16669
 e-mail (optional) gvg2@psu.edu phone (optional) 814 667 2305

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you):

Next day - observed again by myself + DAVID and Trudy Kyler

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details)

weedy field - avg ~~veg~~ veg. height ~ 24 inches

DISTANCE TO BIRD less than 10 yards

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) Good

conditions. Sun was at my back side. Partly cloudy. No precipitation

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED Swanowski binoculars 8 x 30 SRC

625-02-2002

DESCRIPTION (Include as much detail as you observed – size relative to other species present; “jizz”= e.g. posture, body shape, and proportions; colors and patterns of plumage; bill, eye, and leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual):

- Wren-like posture. Smaller than Carolina Wren. Similar to House in size
- Short tail. Clearly saw fine dark stripes on head and dark, bold streaks on upper back.
 - Generally buffy color above – somewhat more gray on breast/belly
 - No distinct or bold eye stripe like Marsh Wren
 - Bill was simply pointed – (typical wren-bill)

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

BEHAVIOR (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)

Bird was perched at top of weed stalk. Singing persistently – Essentially ignored me as I approached within 10 yards

VOCALIZATIONS Distinct song was what first caught my attention to this bird. “Chip-chip chipchipchip”

- First two notes distinct – then staccato of remaining notes.
- Given continuously for entire 20 minutes of observation.

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph _____ Video recording _____ Audio recording _____ Drawing _____

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

e-mail (optional) _____ phone (optional) _____

Please include a copy of the photograph or recording with your report, and accompany it with a complete written documentation if the identification is obvious to you. If you made a drawing, please include it.

IF THIS IS A DEAD BIRD:

General condition _____

If collected (by permit), location of specimen if known _____

625-02-2002

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others)

Streak pattern on head distinguish visually from other wrens.

Habitat dist. from Marsh Wren (weedy field compared to usual cattail habitat of Marsh Wren

Song was definitive absolutely

DISCUSSION - Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it

The next day at same time I returned with experienced observers David and Trudy Kyler.

Bird was still present - singing again

A week later - two searches failed to re-locate

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES I had never

seen/heard Sedge Wren previously. However - one month later I observed many in Minnesota + N. Dakota - further confirming my ID

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? (why or why not)

Absolutely Positive - This ID is unquestioned in my mind

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation

After observation Peterson, Sibley, Nat. Geog. Guides
Stokes - guide to Bird Songs

DATE OF THIS REPORT: Oct 19 2002

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER

Margaret W. Dine

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round One

Species: Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*)

Date of Sighting: 26 May 2002 to 27 May 2002

Location: WEST TOWNSHIP

County: HUNTINGDON

Observer(s): Greg Grove, David Kyler, Trudy Kyler

Date of Submission: 2002

Submitted by: Greg Grove

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			X					
P. Hess			X					
J. Stanley			X					
E. Witmer			X					
R. Leberman			X					
M. Sharp			X					
TOTALS			6	1				
DECISION			X					

Comments: 6/1

Signature (Secretary):

Date:

4/12/03