



UNUSUAL SIGHTING DOCUMENTATION

Species (common & scientific): Sedge Wren *Cistothorus platensis*

Number of Individuals: 1 **Sex(es):** ?

Age(s) & Plumage(s): ?

Date Seen: 10/7/2006 **Time:** Approx. 10 AM

Where Seen (Town/County): New Britain Twp., Bucks Co.

Exact Location (Park, Road, Lake): Peace Valley Park

Observer Reporting:

Name: August Mirabella

Address: 1443 Wheaton Lane
North Wales, PA 19454

E-mail: augustmirabella@aol.com

Telephone (optional): 215-368-0594

Other Observers (Only those who saw & identified the bird with you): Found by Ken Rieker. I was with Rob Hynson, Steve Kacir

Distance to Bird: <10 feet

Viewing Conditions (Sky, weather, position of sun relative to you): Cloudy

Optical Equipment Used: 7X42 Zeiss Bins

Habitat: Wet weedy area with some Multiflora Rose and other small shrubs. On edge of denser thickets and next to field with foot high grasses ("Fox Tail"). Had some wetlands plants such as sedges and rushes. Exact same spot I found one several years ago.

Description (only what you observed; size relative to other species present; posture, body shape & proportions; colors & patterns of plumage: I saw that it was a small wren size & shape, relatively light in color, streaked on the upper parts. All the field marks were easily seen: black, brown and white streaked back; light brown & blackish barred wings with white markings; brownish cap with white streaks; light lore and supercilium with dark line extending through the eye below the light supercilium; a pale throat becoming buffier/chestnut progressing toward the lower belly and flanks; and a light brown/dark brown barred tail. It was extremely cooperative. It popped up a sat several times for up to 30 secs. at a time at very close range.

Behavior (Be as specific as possible about what the bird was doing): It was pished up into a multiflora rose where it was as close as 3 feet to Rob who took pictures.

Vocalizations: None heard.

Supporting Evidence if Any (include with report): Photo attached taken by Rob Hynson

Separation from Similar Species (How you eliminated others): The multiple features described above separate it from other local small wrens (House, Winter, Marsh), particularly the streaked black, brown, and white back, streaked cap, barred wings, combined with the buffy/chestnut lower belly and flanks. Marsh Wren is the only other

with a boldly marked eye line and light supercilium but has a solid much darker cap and is much darker overall.

Discussion (Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it): None.

Previous Experience with this and/or Similar Species: Have only seen a few times locally but saw many this summer in Minnesota.

Are you positive of your ID? (Why or why not): Yes, had a great look at it and saw all the marks.

References:

During Observation: None

After Observation: photo by Hynson

Date of report: 10/18/2006

Signature of Observer: August Mirabella

Am

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Sedge Wren Cistothorus platensis

Date of Sighting: 7 October 2006 to 7 October 2006

Location: PEACE VALLEY PARK

County : BUCKS

Observer(s): Ken Reiker, A. Mirabella, R. Hynson S. Kacir

Date of Submission: 2006

Submitted by: A. Mirabella, R. Hynson

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

Specimen: No

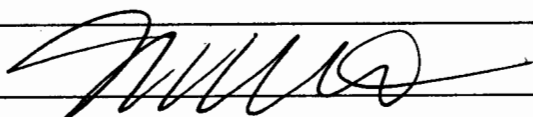
Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
R. Wiltraut	X							
A. Guarente	X							
T. Johnson	X							
J. Stanley								
E. Witmer	X							
J. Heller	X							
G. Malosh	X							
TOTALS	6							
DECISION	X							

Comments:

6/0

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

7/30/07