

Observer Name	Alex Lamoreaux
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Address	Street Address: 179 E Pine Grove Mills Apt 4 City: PINE GROVE MILLS State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 16868 Country: United States
Other observers who saw the bird	Josh Lefever, Ian Gardner, Tim Anderson, Janet Kuehl, etc
Species (Common Name)	Townsend's Solitaire
Species (Scientific Name)	Myadestes townsendi
Subspecies (if known)	
Number of individuals	1
Have you submitted this to eBird?	Yes
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Adult plumage
Observation Date and Time	10-13-2012 10:30 AM
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Central City
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Allegheny Front Hawk Watch
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.0814864,-78.7261391
Habitat	Ridgetop clearing and scrubby area
Distance to bird	40ft
Viewing conditions	Clear day, good lighting
Optical equipment used	Eagle Optics Ranger 10X42, etc
Description	I spotted a bird fly out from the trees in front of the mowed grassy area and drop down over the side of the ridge and out of view. During that 2 second look, I noticed that the bird was about the size of a robin and mostly grayish. The most distinctive feature was that the bird had a prominent buffy bar running along the length of the underwing, at the base of the flight feathers. My immediate impression was that the bird was a Swainson's, Gray-cheeked, or Hermit Thrush

since they also show a prominent buffy bar on their underwings but the size, shape, and coloration of the bird was odd. That is when the idea of it being a Townsend's Solitaire jumped into my head, so I quickly ran towards where I saw the bird go out of view, hoping to see the bird perched somewhere.

Luckily the bird was perched about 40 feet away, over the side of the ridge in a small dogwood tree without any leaves on it. I brought my binos up and saw the bird's overall grayish coloration, small head and bill, and tall upright posture and immediately recognized it as a Townsend's Solitaire.

Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) Flew in, landed in a short tree, perched there for less than 1 minute and then flew off and out of view.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others) No other species is really that similar.

Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it: More details can be found at this link: <http://www.nemesisbird.com/2012/10/townsend-solitaire-bedford-county-pennsylvania/>

Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not) Yes - 100% sure.

During

After Sibley, Crossley

Supporting evidence (check all that apply) Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings [IMG\\_1368.JPG](#)  
[IMG\\_1369.JPG](#)

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