











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
nickpulcinella@comcast.net

SPECIES (common and scientific name) Bicknell's Thrush Catharus bicknelli
Subspecies, if known _____

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 SEX(ES) unknown

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): unknown - presumed adult because of season

DATE OF OBSERVATION 5/17/05 TIME 4:30 pm

LOCATION (city, borough, township) Allegheny National Forest

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) FR 173 - near Willow Bay

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name John Feare
Address 26 Race Street
City Broad End State PA ZIP 16201
e-mail (optional) jfeare@earthlink.net phone (optional) 814 362 1052

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

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

DISTANCE TO BIRD 10 - 15 feet

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) I was in shade

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED Leica 8x42

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): see attached sheet

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

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

VOCALIZATIONS Song perfectly matched CD of Thrush (and other) songs I have

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 _____

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others) see attached sheet

DISCUSSION - Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it: I realize I don't have a recording of this bird, but with the field marks + song I wanted to send it in anyway knowing it will be rejected. At least the possibility in the ANF should be noted.

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

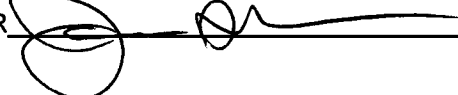
PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES seen and heard on Mt. Jefferson

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? (why or why not) YES - as positive as any one can be without DNA. Song was perfect

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation none
After observation 3.6less + enature + a tape (made for me, unknown name)

DATE OF THIS REPORT: 5/17/05

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER 

John and Lisa Fedak

From: "John and Lisa Fedak" <jlfedak@atlanticbb.net>
To: "PA Birds" <PABIRDS@LIST.AUDUBON.ORG>
Cc: "John and Lisa Fedak" <jlfedak@atlanticbb.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2005 8:28 PM
Subject: McKean County - possible Bicknell's Thrush

Allegheny National forest north of Marshburg

Philadelphia Vireo

Gray-cheeked Thrush

Possible Bicknell's Thrush song sounded like a Bicknell's even the tape I have, and the bird looked brownish, almost but not quite as reddish as a Hermit thrush. The lower mandible was very yellow except for the tip and the upper mandible was gray/black. Instead of rusty reddish sides, the sides were grayish. The sides of the throat were not buffy rust as in a Swainson's. The eyering did not look complete and was a gray color visible mostly on the top and back of the eye. The legs were pinkish. I had nice looks at the bird. I had seen lots of Hermit Thrushes and the bird was different looking - not as much speckling on the breast. It did not look-in general- like a Swainson's and was very different from the Gray-cheeked I had seen previously. The song was nasal, but distinctive -it seemed to rise at the end of each part, and the bird sang mostly 3 to 4 parts at a time- like I said, a close to perfect match as the tape I have.

Lots of warblers, but a weird Black-throated Blue - normal in every respect except song and white cheek patches. The song was more like a Cerulean. Does anyone know if they hybridize???

John Fedak
Bradford

6/28/05

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SPECIES (common and scientific name) Catharus (minimus) bicknelli - Bicknell's Thrush
 Subspecies, if known _____

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 (poss. 2) 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): 1st summer

DATE OF OBSERVATION 21, 22 May 2005 TIME 8:45-11:30am, 8:30-4:30pm

LOCATION (city, borough, township) Lancaster, Lancaster Co. PA

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) Little Conestoga Creek Greenbelt between Columbia and Harrisburg Pikes

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name Daniel Lane
 Address 114 Foster Hall
 City Baton Rouge State LA ZIP 70803-3216
 e-mail (optional) barbutoy@yahoo.com phone (optional) _____

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

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) Riparian second growth with dense understory.

DISTANCE TO BIRD Between 8-20 meters

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) Under canopy, generally sunny lighting generally good (see photos)

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED Zeiss 10x40, Leica telescope

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): Appeared more "petite" than true Gray-checked Thrushes, with a shorter bill, tail, and larger eye. Bill with yellowish base to mandible. Face pattern "plain" with only a pale grayish post-ocular eye crescent. Spots on breast on buffy background. Wings generally grayish-brown (only primary coverts warm brown - unlike what is stated for Bicknell's in Lane and Jaramillo (2000). Possibly due to faded 1st summer plumage?). Greater wing coverts with noticeable pale buff, shaft streaks. Some retained juvenile feathers on scapulars and back. Tail not strongly warmer than body, but perhaps slightly so.

See sketches and photos.

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

BEHAVIOR (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) Vocalizing (both calls, song) frequently. Observed while performing dominance display with another (probably also a "Bicknell's"). Also observed thrashing, preening. See mp3 on CD with my verbal notes recorded in field.

VOCALIZATIONS Both songs and calls were given frequently. See CD for recordings and comparative material

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph X Video recording _____ Audio recording X Drawing X

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:

Name Daniel Lane
Address 119 Foster Hall
City Baton Rouge State LA ZIP 70803-3216
e-mail (optional) barbetboy@yahoo.com 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 _____

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others) Mainly by voice. Some structural characters also suggestive of Bicknell's (eg.: primary to tertial ratio). Gray-checked song is different (one bird singing Gray-checked song was present 22 May. See mp3 on CD).

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

I have included a CD with mp3 files of the bird in question, a "Gray-checked"-type also present on 22 May, and recordings of both Bicknell's and Gray-checked made at various sites (AK, LA, NJ). Also a series of photos of the bird in question as well as of Veeries and "Gray-checked" thrushes taken shortly thereafter in northern NJ for comparison.

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES In addition to seeing several individuals I am fairly certain are Bicknell's, I have seen it on breeding grounds in NY, New England, Canada (see mp3's on CD)

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? (why or why not) I am as certain as I can be short of having the bird in my hand to take measurements.

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

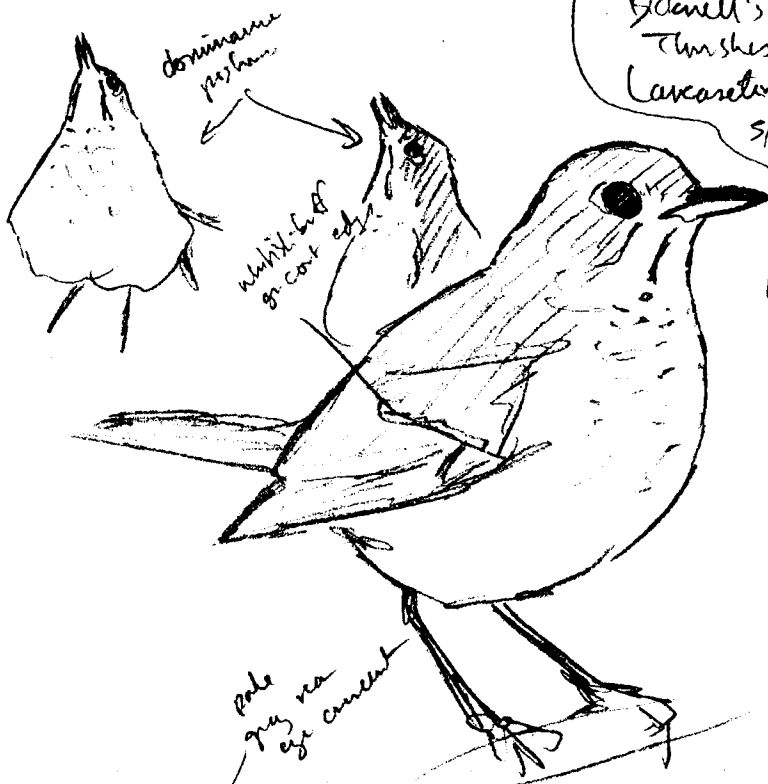
During observation none
After observation Lane and Jaramillo (2000) Birding articles

DATE OF THIS REPORT: 20 June 2005

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER Daniel Lane

1 of 2
Bicknell's
Thrushes
Lawrence PA
5/21/05

Voices
recorded,
digital photos



pale
grey near
eye current

extensive
yellow
mark

one juv
anterior
scapular

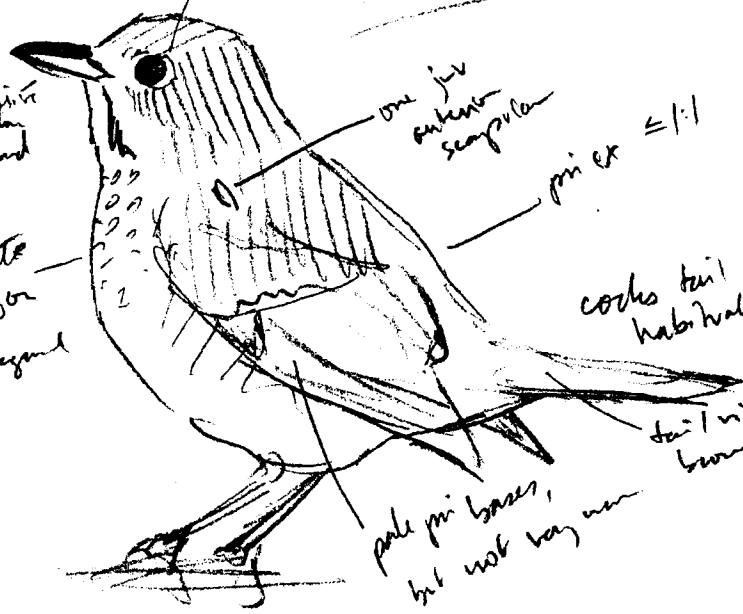
pin ex $\leq 1:1$

moderate
speckling on
buff
background

cocks tail
habitually

tail with
brown (wan?)

pale pin bases,
but not very much



Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Bicknell's Thrush (Catharus bicknelli)

Date of Sighting: 21 May 2005 to 22 May 2005

Location: LANCASTER

County : LANCASTER

Observer(s): Dan Lane

Date of Submission: 2005

Submitted by: Dan Lane

Written Description: Yes

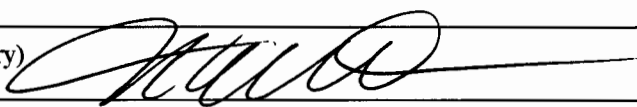
Photo: Yes

Specimen: No

Recording: Audio

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
R. Wittratt T. Johnson	X							
D. Heathcote <i>Oronite</i>	X							
P. Garris <i>R. Leberman</i>	X							
J. Stanley	X							
E. Witmer	X							
R. Leberman <i>Heller</i>	X							
M. Sharp	X							
TOTALS	7							
DECISION	X							

Comments: *7/0*

Signature (Secretary) 

Date: 9/5/06