

694-01-2009

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@verizon.net

SPECIES (common and scientific name) _____ Bohemian Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulous*

Subspecies (if known)

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS _____ 1 _____ **SEX(ES)** _____ ? _____

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 _____ June 8, 2009 _____ **TIME** _____ 9:30 a.m. _____

LOCATION (city, borough, township) _____ Piney Tract, Piney Twp., Clarion County _____

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) _____ State Gamelands 330, Mt. Zion Rd., lane leading to grassland and crest of hill

GPS coordinates:

N 41o 08.412'

W 079o 29.868'

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name _____ Lee Ann Reiners

Address _____ 242 Firehall Lane

City _____ Tidioute _____ State _____ PA _____ ZIP _____ 16351 _____

e-mail (optional) _____ tidhouse@zoominternet.net _____ phone (optional) _____ 814-484-3059

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you): my husband was birding with me, but he went ahead and didn't see it

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) _____ Shrubby area in grassland, perched in dead pine tree

DISTANCE TO BIRD _____ 40-50 ft.

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) _____ clear, sunny, warm, sun behind me to the east as I was looking west

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED _____ binoculars—Canon 15x50 IS

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): _____

ID points: large, especially in comparison to the Cedar Waxwings in the area. Rufous head, wide black, solid eye band with no white above; undertail coverts were not seen—hidden by the branch; gray breast; white markings on the wings. It seemed to be a very calm bird, which surprised me. The Cedar Waxwings are in constant motion it seems, but this fellow just perched there looking straight at me from about 40-50 ft. away for about 45 seconds, even after I shouted to my husband to come back to see (he was already over the hilltop and out of earshot). Very richly colored, making Cedars "pale by comparison."

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

He flew in about 2 minutes after I played the various waxwing calls on my Ipod where I had seen some Cedar Waxwings (about 3-4) about 100 yards north of where I saw this bird. I was trying to distinguish the difference just in case I saw a Bohemian because I had been joking with my husband that I was going to find

one someday. I played both the Boh. and Cedar calls. He perched on a branch in the dead pine facing me directly. When I first eyeballed him, I noticed how large he was, and seemingly chunkier than the slender Cedars. Then I noticed that rufous head. I put the binocs on him and noted the broad black eyeband that went from one side of his head to the other with no upper white markings. I stared at him for a good 20 seconds, lowered the binocs to call out to my husband and then watched a little longer as he just sat there so very calmly. He seemed to be looking straight at me, then he flew away, back and to the left into the shrubs and scrub trees.

VOCALIZATIONS

None

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:

Photograph _____ **Video recording** _____ **Audio recording** _____ **Drawing** _____

(for the first time in weeks, I did not take a camera along—it was too warm a day to be bothered with all that equipment... I may drive back down there on Wednesday if I have time and take a stool and the 400mm lens with me no matter how hot it is! I'll take ice water and wear a brimmed hat and plunk myself down and pray that he comes back.)

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 and number of specimen if known _____

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others)

Larger and heavier than Cedar Waxwings. It had a notably rufous head and a thick black eyeband, without the white stripe above that Cedars have. I saw white specks on the wings as it faced me; but I was unable to see the undertail coverts to check for rufous there—that area was hidden by the branch it was perched on. There was yellow bordering the end of the tail, but that is also a mark of the Cedars.

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

I think I covered just about all my observances and impressions. That rufous head is emblazoned in my mind, very striking. I thought about playing the Ipod vocalization again, but I had only played it the first time for my own education and didn't want to disturb this guy by playing it again. If I go back on Wednesday, I'd appreciate any input as to whether I should play it again to try to call it in. I do not want to play it if it will cause any irritation or frenzy for him unless it is deemed practical.

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES

This is a lifer for me (that's why I was joking with my husband about finding one....)

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

Yes, because of the observances I stated above.

REFERENCES CONSULTED:

During observation ___ Photo on BirdJam program on my Ipod

After observation I didn't carry a field guide with me, but checked my Sibley's back home for comparison and to get the scientific name for this report. I took Ben Coulter's suggestion to not study the field guide so as not to taint my observation.

DATE OF THIS REPORT: _____ June

SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER _____ Lee Ann Reiners

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Bohemian Waxwing Bombycilla garrulus

Date of Sighting: 8 June 2009 to 8 June 2009

County : CLARION

Location : PINEY TRACT

Observer(s): Lee Ann Reiners

Date of Submission: 2009

Submitted by: Lee Ann Reiners

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

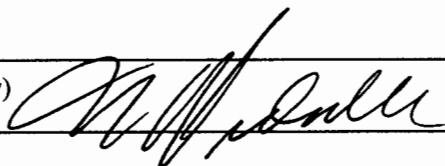
Specimen: No

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			
B. Coulter				X				
C. Rutt					X			
J. Heller					X			
G. Malosh				X				
TOTALS			1	3	3			
DECISION					X			

Comments: 1/6

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

9/30/09