## PA Rare Bird Report

**Submission Date** 2013-09-18 14:28:20

Observer's Name Laurie Goodrich

**E-mail** goodrich@hawkmtn.org

Observer's Address Street Address: laurie goodrich

Street Address Line 2: 347 coal mountain road

City: orwigsburg

State / Province: Pennsylvania Postal / Zip Code: 17961 Country: United States

Names of additional observers Anna Sandor

Species (Common Name) Bohemian Waxwing

Species (Scientific Name) Bombycilla garrulus

Number of individuals

Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex adult (if known)

Observation Date and Time 09-02-2013 8:30 AM

Did you submit this sighting to Not yet (please do, eBird is great!) eBird?

**County** Schuylkill

**Location (City, Borough,** East Brunswick Township **Township**)

Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, Hawk Mountain North Lookout lake, road)

**GPS coordinates of sighting** 40.641833,-75.991494

**Habitat** trees at edge of rock pile on mtn top

Distance to bird 25 feet

**Viewing conditions** cloudy, no fog, morning light

Optical equipment used Swarowski 10x42

Flocks of cedar waxwings were flying by the lookout intermittantly. AFter one passed the lookout, I heard a deeper, raspier trill from tree behind me at edge of Lookout. The bird continued to call throughout the time we observed it, 1-2 minutes. At first I could not see it and person in front of me said is that a waxwing? as she gazed at it. I said not a Cedar!, I had to move to see the bird as a branch blocked

my view. The Trainee from Hungary, Anna was on the bird at

this time also listening to it. She said it sounds like the waxwing I am familiar with. I agreed it sounded like Bohemian. I got on it just before it lept up and flew down ridge. I briefly saw a grayer, darker, plumper waxwing. Anna agreed it appeared to be a Bohemian. It was definitely NOT a cedar waxwing by call and color.

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

bird was calling incessantly for 90 seconds while sitting on top of a tree behind the lookout. It then continued to fly down ridge to SW.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

It does not sound anything like a Cedar. The call is deeper, more harsh, more trill like. IT sounds different. The bird was chunkier than a Cedar and darker greyer coloration. After and before it was there we were hearing and seeing flocks of Cedars off and on all day. My view was not the greatest but the sound was great cue and it was so close, no variation in the call.

Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:

Anna Sandor is a birdwatcher from Hungary serving as a Conservation Science Trainee during fall 2013. She knows Bohemian Waxwings well from observations in her country. She saw the bird longer than I and listened to it for as long. She confirmed it was a Bohemian.

Also I know this is an early sighting and skeptics may prevail but My contacts in New England reported huge winter invasion this past winter so I am hypothesizing that an errant Bohemian hooked up with a Cedar flock last winter and hung out farther south than usual and thus the early migrant. misguided but not out of possibility.

Are you positive of your identification? (Why or why not)

yes. for all the above mentioned reasons, and that Anna was sure as well.

**During** 

none

After

Sibley guide to birds

Click to edit

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