


PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2019-01-04 19:35:03
Observer's Name	Mike Fialkovich
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Observer's Address	805 BEULAH RD PITTSBURGH PA 15235 United States
Names of additional observers	MICHAEL P. FIALKOVICH
Species (Common Name)	Black-throated Gray Warbler
Species (Scientific Name)	Setophaga nigrescens
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Female. Not certain about age.
Observation Date and Time	12-17-2018 12:50 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S50751275
County	Centre
Location (City, Borough, Township)	State College
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Duck Pond on RT. 26 (East College Avenue)
Habitat	Small pond, bordered by scattered shrubs and trees, brushy slope on either side, small woodlot adjacent to pond.
Distance to bird	Varied from approximately fifteen feet to as close as six feet.
Viewing conditions	Excellent; seen at very close range.
Optical equipment used	Leica Ultravid 10X42 binoculars

Description	Obvious warbler, small active bird with thin pointed bill. Gray above, white below. Black streaking on breast and sides. White supercilium, yellow spot on lores, black cheek, black crown, white submoustachial area, two white wingbars, black legs and feet. Throat white, indicating a female.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	I first saw the bird fly right past me and land in a shrub near the edge of the stream that leads into the pond (an area the bird has frequented). It moved around the shrub and perched on an open twig where I saw it very well. It then flew to another shrub along the water's edge and continued to explore and work its way from shrub to shrub along the edge of the pond. It was very active. After about ten minutes it flew into a tall tree, and then flew across the access road and into the heavy brush on a slope.
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	The most similar bird would be Black-and-white Warbler. Black-and-white females lack the black cheek and would show some black on the throat and are black with streaks above (not gray). The yellow spot near the eye on Black-throated Gray is diagnostic. Also the behavior was different. This bird moved through shrubs like a typical warbler, and a Black-and-white Warbler would creep along branches, often searching the underside of the branches in search of food.
Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)	Yes. I have seen this species in the west and I had close views of it at Duck Pond.
During	None.
After	Sibley Guide to Birds, National Geographic Guide.
Supporting evidence (check all that apply)	Photograph
Upload images, audio, video or drawings	 <p>Black-throated Gray Warbler, State College, PA 12-17-2018 (2).jpg</p>
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