

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2014-06-04 18:14:57
Observer's Name	Scott Burnet
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Phone	484-955-8580
Observer's Address	Street Address: 15 S Muhlenberg St. City: Allentown State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 18104 Country: United States
Names of additional observers	Alan Jennings, Adam Smith, et al.
Species (Common Name)	Kirtland's Warbler
Species (Scientific Name)	Steophaga kirtlandii
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	adult male
Observation Date and Time	05-10-2014 4:30 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Not yet (please do, eBird is great!)
County	Lehigh
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Scherersville PA
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Jordan Creek Parkway
GPS coordinates of sighting	not available at this time
Habitat	streamside, mixed deciduous woodland
Distance to bird	30 feet
Viewing conditions	clear, unobstructed view for 15-20 seconds
Optical equipment used	Brunton 11x45 binoculars
Description	After meeting with Alan Jennings (who was leading an Audubon Society walk here this day) he told me of seeing a "100% for sure" Kirtland's Warbler there the day before while scouting the route. He observed the bird with another person (name unknown) for 10-15 minutes that day , even taking out his field guide to make sure of the ID. Later, on the

walk, Adam Smith (another local expert) heard the bird call, once. Recordings were played back to Adam, and he was 90% sure of the song. I did not see the bird or hear it on the walk. I went back later with my camera to try to photograph it if possible, and while waiting, it landed in the same tree Alan had seen it in the day before. I observed it clearly, for 15-20 seconds, noting the field marks I had brushed up on before going out to photograph it. I was unable to get images of the bird, as it flew while I was viewing it through the binoculars.

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

The bird landed in a Maple tree, 30 feet from me, and began typical Warbler feeding behavior. It investigated the ends of the budding branches for insects, flicking it's tail the entire time.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

The only similar species that occur here are Magnolia and Yellow-throated Warbler. I discounted both of these IDs as possibilities, due to the lack off any eyestripe whatsoever, and the bird having an incomplete eyering. The bird had an all gray head, save for some black markings near the bill. Much black streaking on the back (mantle) as well.

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

Please contact Alan Jennings at: ajennings@caclv.org and Adam Smith at: adamsmithud@yahoo.com to confirm this sighting.

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

positive - I checked all of my reference materials to be sure of field marks before I went after the bird again.

During

before: Nat Geo, Sibley's, etc.

After

same

Click to edit

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Scott Burnet

Jun 4

Jan -

After forwarding my submission for the Kirtland's Warbler to Adam Smith, he got back to me and informed me he heard it sing 8-10 times, not just once. I was under the impression (at the time) he had heard it only once. This supports the sighting I had, along with Alan Jennings and another observer, the day before. Any questions, please call or email me. Thanks.