

Barb Dean 321 E. Meyer Ave, New Castle, PA 16105

756-01-1997

Swainson's Warbler (Limnothlypis swainsonii)

P.O.R.C.

Date May 21, 1997

Time 9:15 AM to 9:19 AM

Temperature 50°

Weather Sunny cumulus clouds and blue sky with no wind to slight wind.

Location Lawrence County City of Volant Volant Trail which runs along the Neshannock Creek.

Equipment used was Zeiss 10x binoculars.

Distance was 12 feet to 24 feet.

Description and Details George and I started walking along the fisherman's trail at Volant along the Neshannock Cr. about 8 AM. We had seen 14 species of warbler by 9 AM and the trail was full of song but I never heard the Swainson sing. I glanced down to my left (west) and saw a Swainson's Warbler 12' away and just 2' to 3' off the ground. It was walking around the vine in the photo and around the tall deciduous tree that the 3" diameter vine hung from. The bird stopped while it was on the vine. It looked at us several times and did not seem to be disturbed by us. The bird also fluttered a few times but stayed close to the tree trunk, and the vine and ground. It walked around the tree at least twice so I got to view the bird from all sides. I saw the bird mostly in shade. Generally the bird looked medium brown on all the upper parts from head to tail. The whitish eyebrow stood out very well because of the dark line running through the eye to the nape which was below the eyebrow and the strong brown above the greyish eyebrow. (Greyish white eyebrow) The eyebrow stood out as well as it does on the Carolina wren in this shade. The reddish-brown color of the cap did not show up very well in the shade. When I used the binoculars, the cap just had a little warmer cast. The undersides of the bird just looked dingy white. The bird had dark eyes and the bill seemed large for a warbler. It was thick at the base and long and had a sharp point. I'm reporting what I saw and not what I know when I say that the legs looked dark in the shade. We watched the bird for at least 4 minutes without talking or moving. I turned to ask George to get the camera back at the parking lot and call Suzanne Butcher and Linda Wagner on the cell phone and at that moment the bird flew away from us. It stayed low and disappeared in the undergrowth about 10 or 12' ^{CARTHER} away. We hung out for an hour and marked the trail with an arrow on a stone. We never heard the bird make any sound. No one could find the bird later that day or the next. I have seen this bird species in good light and my description leaves out the olive color but that did not show up at all on this bird.

Barb Dean 25 May 1997

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Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*)

Date of Sighting: 21 May 1997 to 21 May 1997

Location: VOLANT

County: LAWRENCE

Observer(s): Barb Dean

Date of Submission: 1997

Submitted by: Barb Dean

Written Description: YES

Photo: NO

Specimen: NO

Recording: NONE

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas			X					
P. Schwalbe			X					
K. Parkes			X					
R. Ickes			X					
P. Hess			X					
J. McWilliams			X					
T. Floyd			X					
TOTALS			7					
DECISION			X					

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F. C. Haas

Date:

4-19-99