





**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**

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**SPECIES** (common and scientific name): Western tanager WETA, *Piranga ludoviciana*

**Subspecies** (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

**NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS:** 1 **SEX(ES):** female

**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): bright adult female

**DATE OF OBSERVATION:** April 13, 2008 **TIME:** 3:30 to 6:30 pm

**LOCATION** (city, borough, township): Philadelphia

**EXACT SITE** (e.g. name of park, lake, road): Tincum National Environmental Center, dike trail to the Observation Platform.

**OBSERVER REPORTING:** Chuck Berthoud, 47 Brookside Ave, Hershey, PA 17033

e-mail (optional): cberthoud@verizon.net phone (optional): 717/533-7136

**OTHER OBSERVERS** (only those who saw and identified the bird with you): Art Shivao, Hershey, PA, Frank Windefelder (sp?), Philadelphia area

**HABITAT** (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) riparian trees

**DISTANCE TO BIRD:** 50 to 150 feet

**VIEWING CONDITIONS** (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) Mostly cloudy, 50 degrees, light wind

**OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED:** 8x42 binoculars

**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): Overall yellow bird with dark wings and two wing bars. Orange bill.

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

**BEHAVIOR** (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing): The bird was healthy and feeding 30feet up a tree. Later the bird was seen farther south of the Platform along the dike trail. It was feeding at eye level to 15 feet up.

**VOCALIZATIONS:** none

**SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY:**

**Photograph** \_\_\_\_\_ **Video recording** \_\_\_\_\_ **Audio recording** \_\_\_\_\_ **Drawing** \_\_\_\_\_

**Photographer/recorder/illustrator:**

Bill Moses, 2110 Oakland Dr, Norristown, PA 19403

e-mail (optional): [mohophotos@yahoo.com](mailto:mohophotos@yahoo.com) phone (optional) 610/630-9118

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.

Both pictures (below) clearly show a yellow bird with dark wings and wing bars.



**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): All the common North American tanagers do not have wing bars except WETA. From Sibley: Flame colored tanager lacks streaking in the crown to the rump, is deeper yellow than Western and has large white spots on tertials.

**DISCUSSION** – Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it (Please use an additional page if necessary) Not necessary, this is a straight forward ID. The pictures and field description are rather conclusive.

**PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES:** Scarlet tanager is a common breeding bird in the forests of PA of which I have recorded many for the breeding bird atlas. I have seen WETA in Texas and Colorado.

**ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION ?** (why or why not): The photos, field marks and concurrence of all field observers leave very little doubt of ID.

**REFERENCES CONSULTED:**

During observation: Sibley Guide to Birds

After observation: Sibley Guide to Birds

**DATE OF THIS REPORT:** April 16, 2008

**SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER:** Chuck Berthoud

**Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee**

**Voting Tabulation – Round One**

Species: Western Tanager *Piranga ludoviciana*

Date of Sighting: 13 April 2008 to 15 April 2008

County : PHILADELPHIA/DELAWARE

Location : JOHN HEINZ NWR

Observer(s): Denis Brenan m.obs

Date of Submission: 2008

Submitted by: Tom Johnson, C. Berthoud

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

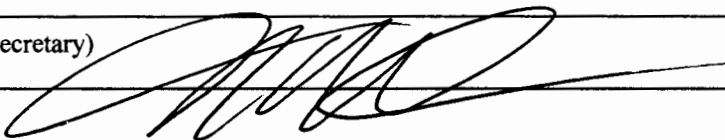
Specimen: No

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							
E. Witmer	X							
J. Heller	X							
G. Malosh	X							
TOTALS	7							
DECISION	X							

Comments: 7/0

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

8/20/08