



PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE
2469 Hammertown Road
Narvon, PA 17555

September 26, 1997

Linda Christenson
602 Sunset Road
Saint Marys, PA 15857-3438

Dear Linda,

Thank you for submitting documentation on the Hoary Redpoll you saw in Saint Marys on 28 January 1996 to P.O.R.C. After careful review, we regret that we are unable to accept this record. The committee was concerned that because of the high degree of variability in redpoll plumages, the documentation submitted lacked adequate detail regarding the description of the undertail coverts, the color of the breast and shape of bill all important field marks in separating Hoary and Common Redpoll (Czaplak 1995). Because of the overlap in some plumage characteristics between the two redpoll species, the committee prefers to err on the side of caution regarding this report.

This of course, does not mean the bird was not a Hoary Redpoll, merely, that the record is not beyond reasonable doubt for acceptance

We hope that this does not discourage you from submitting documentation on any rare birds you find in the future. Please be encouraged to send as much detail as possible when submitting a report.

Sincerely,

Nick Pulcinella
Chairman

Record # 887-01-1996

Reference: Czaplak, D. 1995. Identifying Common and Hoary Redpolls in Winter.
Birding 27:447-457

887-01-1996

~~1/28 - 29/96~~

St. Marys, PA

Cheek / buff
Rump / white
Head /

small red area

Breast / buff
white
unstreaked

Undertail -
white (seen
from laundry
room window
maybe 20 feet
away - binoculars)

Back / pearly
white - clearly
different from
than other
redpolls

(seen from
above - also
about 20 feet
or less)

This bird stood out
(definitely) from the other
redpolls. Photo taken
1/28/96. In a flock of over
17 birds.

Also noted tail had
very sharp points



Note: Buiding Dec., 1995
page 456 - my bird
like this bird -

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: **Hoary Redpoll (Carduelis hornemanni)**

Date of Sighting: **28 January 1996 to 29 January 1996**

Location: **ST MARYS**

County: **ELK**

Observer(s): **Linda Chistensen**

Date of Submission: **1996**

Submitted by: **Linda Chistensen**

Written Description: **YES** Photo: **YES** Specimen: **NO**

Recording: **NONE**

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas				X				
N. Pulcinella						X		
E. Kwater	X							
R. Ickes			X					
G. McWilliams				X				
P. Schwalbe			X					
S. Feldstein				X				
TOTALS	1		2	3		1		
DECISION				X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F. C. Haas

Date:

2-22-97