



PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE
210 Welcome Ave. Norwood, PA 19074

8 February 2001

Kevin Crilley
P. O. Box 100
Sumneytown PA 18084

Dear Kevin,

Thank you for submitting the photographs of the Glossy Ibis on 24 August 1998 and the Canada (Richardson's) Goose on 24 December 1998 at Green Lane Reservoir. After careful review, the committee decided that it cannot accept this records beyond a designation as *Plegadis* species for the ibis and as "one of the small races" for the goose.

On the ibis, a majority of the members felt that the bird was most likely a Glossy but that the photograph did not provide enough detail to separate it from White-faced Ibis. On the goose, at present the committee does not accept races of the Canada as formal subspecific records. As do many state committees, we classify these relatively small individuals only as "one of the small races" because of the possibility of Lesser (*parvipes*), Taverner's (*taverneri*), or Cackling (*minima*), all of which may intergrade with Richardson's (*hutchinsii*).

The committee emphasizes that non-acceptance does not mean that the bird was not the species or subspecies reported, but rather that the committee believes the documentation submitted does not support the identification conclusively. We hope that this will not discourage you from submitting documentation on any rarities you may find in the future, and we are particularly interested in continuing to receive photographs and other documentation of these small Canada Geese for their value in future studies of this identification question.

Finally, the committee apologizes for the unacceptably long delay before all members were able to vote on the record. Circumstances beyond our control caused the problem, and we believe that we are back on a timely track.

Sincerely,

For the Committee:
Paul Hess, Chairman

P.S. Beginning this year observers will receive postcards acknowledging that the committee has received their documentation. In addition, whereas observers formerly were notified only when reports were not accepted (in disappointing or irritating letters like this one), they will now receive cards announcing that their records *have* been accepted.

Records #095-02-1998, #116a-01-1998

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round One

Species: Canda (Richardson's) Goose (*Branta canadensis hutchinsii*)

Date of Sighting: 24 December 1998 to 24 December 1998

Location: GREEN LANE RESERVOIR

County: MONTGOMERY

Observer(s): Kevin Crilly

Date of Submission: 1998

Submitted by: Kevin Crilly

WRITTEN DESCRIPTION NO *PHOTO* YES *SPECIMEN* NO *RECORDING* NO

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
D. Couchman					X			
T. Floyd								X
P. Hess					X			
R. Ickes					X			
J. McWilliams	X							
B. Reid					X			
P. Rodewald					X			
TOTALS	1				5			1
DECISION					X			

Comments: *2/5/1*

Signature (Secretary): 

Date: *8/29/00*