

Debbie Yovanovich  
Butler PA

838A 02 - 1999

On October 28, 1999 I was checking my budfeeders in my back yard. I noticed an immature White-Crowned Sparrow scratching in the mulch where I sprinkle white millet. I was excited to see it because the main group of 7 that I had were last seen at the feeders on October 18. I looked at the bird through 10X binoculars (Swarovski) from about 30-40 yards away. I thought its face looked a little bit different than the others. I was aware of the subspecies, so I set up my spotting scope (Kowa) and watched the bird. It was feeding in an open area, so I got to study it pretty thoroughly for about 15 minutes. The first thing I noticed was that it looked pretty "clean" between the bill and the eye. I have a copy of the Rising/Beadle Sparrow book so I studied the plates. The bird in my yard had a lighter orange bill which I thought matched up well with the Gambel's subspecies. I was able to get a pretty decent image at 60X and the area between the bill and eye was a light gray - I did not see even a smudge of black. I thought it was very possible that the bird was the Gambel's subspecies. It showed up again on October 29 and that was the last I saw of it.

COVER

838<sub>A</sub> 02-1999

RARE BIRD REPORT

Species: "Gambel's" White-crowned Sparrow Date of this Observation: 10/28/99

Date Found: 10/28/99 Last Date Seen: 10/28/99

Location: Back yard feeder

Township/City: BUTLER TOWNSHIP County: Butler

Person Writing this report: Debra Yovanovich

Address: 120 Aubrey Dr.  
Butler PA 16001

Phone: 724-283-8002

Other Observers: \_\_\_\_\_

Who found the bird first: The observer

Other documentation Included: (Circle all appropriate items)(Make sure all attached items are fully labeled)

Photograph      Audio Recording      Video Recording

If a Specimen, where is it stored? \_\_\_\_\_

Description: (Attach additional pages as needed—Please do not write on back of this form)

Documentation for PORC attached,

**Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee**

**Voting Ballot - Round One**

Species: White-crowned (Gambell's) Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambelli*)

Date of Sighting: 28 October 1999 to 28 October 1999

Location: BUTLER TOWNSHIP

County: BUTLER

Observer(s): Debbie Yavanovich

Date of Submission: 1999

Submitted by: Debbie Yavanovich

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

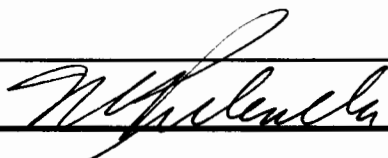
Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
G. Armistead			X					
D. Couchman			X					
P. Hess			X					
R. Ickes			X					
B. Reid			X					
P. Rodewald	<del>BY</del>		X					
M. Sharp			X					
TOTALS			7					
DECISION			0					

Comments: 7/0

Signature (Secretary):



Date: 2/27/01