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| <b>Submission Date</b>   | 2012-11-27 15:38:18   |
| <b>Observer's Name</b>   | Cameron Rutt  |
| <b>E-mail</b>  | cameronrutt@gmail.com   |
| <b>Observer's Address</b>  | Country: United States  |
| <b>Names of additional observers</b>                                       | Regina and Robert Rutt  |
| <b>Species (Common Name)</b>   | "Gambel's" White-crowned Sparrow  |
| <b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>   | Zonotrichia leucophrys gambelii   |
| <b>Number of individuals</b>   | 1   |
| <b>Have you submitted this to eBird?</b>                                   | Yes   |
| <b>Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)</b>                            | Juvenile  |
| <b>Observation Date and Time</b>   | 11-7-2012 3:25 PM   |
| <b>County</b>  | Bucks   |
| <b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>                                  | Blooming Glen, Hilltown Township  |
| <b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>                          | 727 Blooming Glen Road  |
| <b>Habitat</b>   | Small suburban backyard bordered by farmland.   |
| <b>Optical equipment used</b>  | Swarovski EL 8.5x42 binoculars and a Canon 60D with a 400mm f/5.6L  |
| <b>Description</b>   | See photos  |
| <b>Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)</b> | Foraging on the ground with other sparrows, including an adult White-crowned Sparrow of the nominate subspecies, in an area with spread seeds. When alarmed, the sparrows would dive into the bush for cover.   |
| <b>Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)</b>         | Although David Sibley in his blog (see below) states that "immatures [are] effectively indistinguishable" between gambelii and the nominate subspecies, the Blooming Glen bird shows classic "Gambel's" features and, to my eye, does not show any signs of intermediacy/intergradation which would cause concern for the identification. Moreover, the yellow-orange bill color of this bird, which was very evident (even more so than the blank loreal pattern), perfectly matches that of "Gambel's" and is unlike the "darker pink [bill] without yellow or orange tones" of the |

expected nominate subspecies.

Interestingly, Michael O'Brien identified a juvenile "Gambel's" White-crowned Sparrow at Cape May, NJ, just a few days prior:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/75795935@N08/8156015953>  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/75795935@N08/8156014379>

**Discussion - anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/chrysoptera/8165008418>  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/chrysoptera/8164970173>

**Are you positive of your identification? (Why or why not)**

Yes (as much as I can be without genetic analyses: it is certainly a "bird showing characteristics of the western [Taiga] breeding populations")

**After**

<http://www.sibleyguides.com/bird-info/white-crowned-sparrow/>

**Supporting evidence (check all that apply)**

Photograph

**Upload images, audio, video or drawings**

[IMG\\_2370.JPG](#)

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