

## PA Rare Bird Report

<b>Submission Date</b>	2019-03-04 23:12:04
<b>Observer's Name</b>	Devich Farbotnik
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<b>Phone</b>	6105041715
<b>Observer's Address</b>	P.O. Box 135 Revere PA 18953 United States
<b>Names of additional observers</b>	none
<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	Savannah Sparrow
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	Passerculus sandwichensis
<b>Subspecies (if known)</b>	Ipswich
<b>Number of individuals</b>	1
<b>Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)</b>	adult
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	11-26-2016 1:30 PM
<b>Did you submit this sighting to eBird?</b>	Not yet (please do, eBird is great!)
<b>County</b>	Bucks
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	Tullytown, Falls Township
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	Penn Warner Tract
<b>Habitat</b>	open weedy area between impoundments
<b>Distance to bird</b>	50-150 feet
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	cloudy but good visibility
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	Leica 10x42 binoculars

**Description**

I was walking along an elevated access road between some impoundments when a few Savannah Sparrows flushed off the path ahead of me. Most looked like typical Savannah Sparrows but the one was very pale. I remember thinking, what is this pale thing going to be? I quickly got it in the binoculars and suspected it was an Ipswich Sparrow. I could see the pale gray back, brownish streaking on the underside and it appeared to be a little chunkier. It also looked more round-headed than the typical peaked-headed looking Savannah Sparrows. It flew ahead of me a couple times and I was able to get several pictures.

**Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)**

Feeding along path initially, then in flight and perched on weeds

**Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)**

The closest thing would be a Savannah Sparrow but the whole bird had a different look to it. I wanted to make sure it wasn't just a paler/leucistic "regular" Savannah but it was bulkier looking, had a rounded head, pale gray back and the brown streaks on the underside that are consistent with Ipswich.

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

As far as I can tell, this might be the first documented record of this subspecies for PA (if accepted)

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

Yes. I sent some pictures around and people thought the same thing I did that it was an Ipswich Sparrow.

**During**

Sibley

**After**

Sparrows of the US and Canada

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

Photograph

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

[DB9A0296.jpg](#)



[DB9A0299.jpg](#)



[DB9A0301.jpg](#)

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