

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>
Observer Name	Alex Lamoreaux
E-mail	aslamoreaux@gmail.com
Phone	
Address	Street Address: 179 E Pine Grove Mills Apt 4 City: PINE GROVE MILLS State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 16868 Country: United States
Other observers who saw the bird	Alex Lamoreaux, Ian Gardner, Josh Lefever
Species (Common Name)	Thayer's Gull
Species (Scientific Name)	Larus thayeri
Subspecies (if known)	
Number of individuals	1
Have you submitted this to eBird?	Yes
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	First winter
Observation Date and Time	12-22-2012 02:20 PM
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Presque Isle SP
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Presque Isle SP--Vista 1
GPS coordinates of sighting	42.116975,-80.147717
Habitat	Bay in the lake
Distance to bird	quarter-mile
Viewing conditions	overcast but no precip
Optical equipment used	binos, scopes

Description	<p>We pulled in and noticed gulls gathering on the water, so we began scoping through them and almost instantly noticed this Thayer's floating near about 4 first winter Herring Gulls and 100 adult Ring-billed Gulls. The Thayer's was slightly smaller than the HERG but larger than RBGU. The gull was overall a very sandy-brown coloration with wingtips a chocolate brown color that was noticeably darker than the rest of the gull's upperside but not as dark as the black wingtips that the HERG had. The primaries were edged with light tan. The head was smaller and more rounded than a HERG, with a short and all-black bill. For the majority of the time we watched the bird, it was floating with its head tucked but a few times it lifted its head and offered nice profile view in the scope. Twice the bird took flight and then circled back to where it had been floating. In the air, the bird's flight feathers were uniform brown instead of fading towards black in the outer few primaries like in first winter HERG. Due to the distance and poor lighting conditions, we were not able to take any quality photos. This is the second first winter Thayer's Gull reported so far this winter in Erie. This bird appeared paler brown than the other bird that was found, based off the photos we saw of the other bird. The next day we ended up finding the bird again, floating offshore among RBGU, HERG, and GBBG. The Thayer's was slightly smaller than the HERG but larger than RBGU. The gull was overall a very sandy-brown coloration with wingtips a chocolate brown color that was noticeably darker than the rest of the gull's upperside but not as dark as the black wingtips that the HERG had. The primaries were edged with light tan. The head was smaller and more rounded than a HERG, with a short and all-black bill.</p>
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	Floating on water and occasionally stretching its wings, but only seen in flight once.
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	See above
Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:	
Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or	Yes - photos confirm

why not)	
During	Sibley
After	Sibley
Supporting evidence (check all that apply	Photograph
Upload images, audio, video or drawings	IMG_0038.JPG IMG_0047.JPG IMG_0055.JPG





