

Nick Pulcinella

From: "Nick Pulcinella" <nickpulcinella@comcast.net>
To: "Pulcinella, Nick" <nickpulcinella@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2006 8:58 PM
Subject: FW: Jaeger documentation

332A 01-2006

-----Original Message-----

From: JerryMcW@aol.com [mailto:JerryMcW@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2006 12:10 PM
To: nickpulcinella@comcast.net
Subject: Jaeger documentation

Location: Presque Isle State Park, Erie County, Pa.
 Date: October 24, 2006
 Time: 10:05 AM
 Weather: Mostly cloudy, wind WNW
 Observer: Jerry McWilliams
 Optics: Kowa TSN 4 with eyepiece set at 40X
 Viewing distance: at least a mile offshore.
 Viewing conditions: good

Details of sighting and description: I was conducting my annual fall waterbird count when I observed a fast flying dark bird approaching from the east. It flew parallel to the shoreline of the park at approximately a mile offshore and was out of view within a couple of minutes or so. I recognized it as a jaeger by its overall dark appearance, its mid-gull size, falcon-like flight, and white flashes at the base of the primaries. At times the barred uppertail coverts and white upper primary shafts (appearing as a small white patch) could be seen. As it flew I could see that the wings were angled sharply back and quite pointed. The upperside, except for the upper tail coverts was entirely very dark brown. The chest looked brown with patches of brown (barring?) on the flanks. The white patch at the base of the primaries was quite distinctive. It never glided but flew directly west only a few feet above the water without ever changing altitude. Long-tailed Jaeger was ruled out because of its rather broad wings, stout body, and amount of white at the base of the primaries. It is also much later in the season than you would expect a Long-tailed Jaeger.

The distance of the bird was too great for me to get any details beyond what I described above. There were not any gulls nearby for size comparison. I am quite familiar with Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers and have seen many conducting the waterbird counts at Sunset Point as well as seeing many on the Atlantic Ocean.

Jerry McWilliams

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Jaeger species Stercorarius

Date of Sighting: 24 October 2006 to 24 October 2006

Location: PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK

County : ERIE

Observer(s): Jerry McWilliams

Date of Submission: 2006

Submitted by: Jerry McWilliams

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

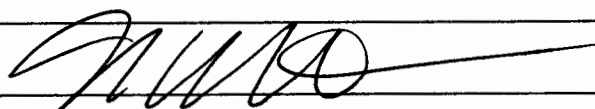
Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
R. Wiltraut			X					
A. Guarente			X					
T. Johnson			X					
J. Stanley								
E. Witmer			X					
J. Heller			X					
G. Malosh			X					
TOTALS			X					
DECISION			6					

Comments: 6/0

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

7/30/07