

Documentation for the PORC:

Person Submitting Data: Cameron Rutt

Address: P.O. Box 223 Blooming Glen, PA 18911

Date: August 7, 2004

Phone: 215-453-9585

Species: Plegadis Species (Glossy Ibis)

Other Observers: later this day and the next day- Devich Farbotnik

How Long Observed: during the course of approximately forty-five minutes from 9:45-10:30 AM.

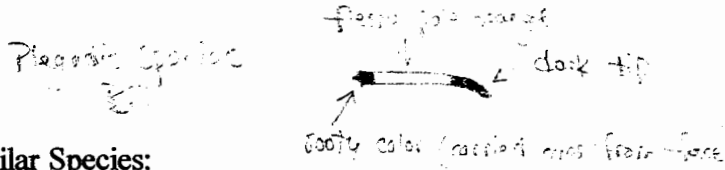
Where Observed: The bird was found in a small flooded area of the Penn Warner Hunting Club which is located in southern Bucks County and is in very close proximity to the Tullytown Landfill, the Delaware River, and the VanSciver Lakes.

Conditions: It was generally good viewing conditions with the morning being partly cloudy and cool for the season in the 70 degree range. The bird frequented the back edge of the flooded pond which was about 250 feet away from me. The bird was viewed through both my binoculars and my 20-60x spotting scope.

Behavior and Habit: The Ibis waded with a probing motion sticking its bill into the water/mud then moving its bill up and down quickly before relocating and repeating. It fed in shallow water, the water's edge, and on the mud/dirt itself. It was visible during almost the entire period of observation, only disappearing behind a mud island or some grass a few times. The bird flew once when the three nearby Great Egrets also flew. All four birds resettled shortly afterwards.

Species: Immediately upon putting the scope on the bird, it was obvious that it was an Ibis. It was a fairly large blackish wading bird with a lengthy decurved bill and comparatively long legs. But as I tried to look for the definitive marks of a Glossy Ibis, I came to realize that the bird I was looking at was a juvenile, thus it cannot be separated positively from the similar White-Faced Ibis. While chances would say that this juvenile would almost 100 % be a Glossy Ibis due to the fact that the nearest nesting Glossy in New Jersey is considerably closer than the nearest nesting White-Faced in Louisiana, I cannot rule out the latter. The Plegadis species had gray legs which were darker on the lower legs but this was probably due to mud. It had a glossy green sheen to the wings and a brown head, neck, and forebody with no signs of rusty areas as in a breeding adult Ibis. The face pattern and bill was not neat and defined like a nonbreeding adult either. It had a sooty face that carried on to the base of the bill. Its eye was dark and there were a few

small white flecks on the top rear of the eye and the forehead. The decurved bill seemed slightly stubbier than the adult Ibis I am used to seeing at the shore, and it was not consistent in color. After the sooty base to the bill came a fleshy/pale orange middle to the bill followed by a dark tip (see picture below).



Similar Species:

White-Faced Ibis- see above for discussion about the dark Ibis separation

White Ibis- the only other bird with the Ibis shape. This bird showed no signs of red to the bill and legs and did not contain any large amounts of white to the underside as a juvenile

White Ibis would show.

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Plegadis, species (Plegadis, species)

Date of Sighting: 7 August 2004 to 7 August 2004

Location: PENN WARNER TRACT

County : BUCKS

Observer(s): Cameron Rutt

Date of Submission: 2004

Submitted by: Cameron Rutt

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								
D. Heathcote <i>A Guarante</i>			X					
P. Guris			X					
J. Stanley			X					
E. Witmer			X					
R. Leberman <i>J. Iteller</i>			X					
M. Sharp			X					
TOTALS			6					
DECISION			X					

Comments: *6/0*

Signature (Secretary) 

Date: *12/2/04*