

<b>Submission Date</b>	2012-12-11 11:15:51
<b>Observer's Name</b>	David McNaughton
<b>E-mail</b>	davmcnaugh@pa.gov
<b>Phone</b>	717-861-8408
<b>Observer's Address</b>	Street Address: Fort Indiantown Gap Street Address Line 2: Bldg. 11-19 Utility Rd. City: Annville State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 17003 Country: United States
<b>Names of additional observers</b>	Jarrod Derr, Randy Miller, Tim Becker, Rosemary Spreha, Chuck Chalfant (and many many more over the next month)
<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	Eared Grebe
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	Podiceps nigricollis
<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>	Adult non-breeding
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	10-29-2012 8:10 AM
<b>County</b>	Lebanon
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	East Hanover Twp.
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	Memorial Lake State Park
<b>GPS</b>	

<b>coordinates of sighting</b>	40.4190669,-76.5964973
<b>Habitat</b>	Lake
<b>Distance to bird</b>	Varied, some views less than 100m
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	Clear day
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	Nikon Fieldscope 80
<b>Description</b>	First reported by Jarrod Derr on 10/28. Slightly crested head, small upturned bill, dark overall with a dull white cheek patch, dusky overall appearance. Contrasted with both Horned and Pied-billed Grebes in the immediate area. Cheek patch extended above the eye. Later seen with Western Grebe and Red-necked Grebe for comparison, and smaller and darker/dingier than both.
<b>Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)</b>	Feeding, diving, and resting. Generally stays within the vicinity of American Coots and other Grebes. Diving for extremely long periods of time when first found. Stayed underwater for much longer than the other present Grebes.
<b>Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)</b>	Cheek patch extended much higher towards the ear than the other thin-billed species. All 5 Grebe species known to occur in PA were found on the water with this bird for much of November and provided great opportunities for comparison. Obvious jizz differences when seen side by side with Horned, Pied-billed, and Red-necked Grebes. Horned Grebes were much brighter with more white and crisper features. Red-necked Grebe was much larger.
<b>Discussion - anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:</b>	Re-observed on 4 November and 10 December 2012 in same location. Continuously observed through these dates by other state birders. Photographs taken by Jarrod Derr and others <a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/60992758@N05/8155473256/in/photostream">http://www.flickr.com/photos/60992758@N05/8155473256/in/photostream</a> .
<b>Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)</b>	Yes, multiple great views with side-by-side comparisons of all the other possible Grebes and tons of additional state observers to confirm leave me very confident.
<b>During</b>	Sibley's Eastern Guide, other birders
<b>After</b>	Same
<b>Supporting evidence</b>	

**evidence  
(check all  
that apply)**

Photograph

**Click to edit**

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