

PA Rare Bird Report

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| Submission Date | 2015-06-22 01:34:02 |
| Observer's Name | Ted Nichols II |
| E-mail | tanicholsii@gmail.com |
| Phone | 7178563851 |
| Observer's Address | Street Address: 102 Spruce Ct. City: Annville State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 17003 Country: United States |
| Names of additional observers | Vern Gauthier, Bill Oyler |
| Species (Common Name) | Chuck-will's-widow |
| Species (Scientific Name) | <i>Antrostomus carolinensis</i> |
| Subspecies (if known) | None |
| Number of individuals | 1 |
| Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known) | Adult Male |
| Observation Date and Time | 06-21-2015 8:50 PM |
| Did you submit this sighting to eBird? | Yes |
| Link to eBird checklist | http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S24001990 |
| County | Cumberland |
| Location (City, Borough, Township) | Dickinson Twp, Michaux State Forest |
| Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road) | Ridge Road at Old Ridge Road, Michaux State Forest |
| GPS coordinates of sighting | 40°04'20.4"N 77°14'13.1"W |
| Habitat | Road cut through semi-open deciduous woodland bordering regenerating clearcut area |
| Distance to bird | As close as 20 feet |
| Viewing conditions | Clear night sky following a passing thunderstorm |
| Optical equipment used | None, nocturnal observation |
| Description | NOCTURNAL OBSERVATION: Bird began singing promptly at 8:47 PM, 350 yards west of the intersection of Old Ridge Road and Ridge Road from a |

perch above eye level. The bird stayed in the same spot for almost 20 minutes singing almost continuously with occasional, short 20 second breaks. An Eastern whip-poor-will occasionally joined the CWWI's song during this period. After two fellow observers left, I set up my sound equipment again to record and the bird flew over the road 2 times, conditions were now completely dark. As it was dark and I was not using any lighting, visual observation only yielded a silhouette against the night sky. The silhouette of the bird indicated a bird larger than that of a Common Nighthawk and Eastern whip-poor-will with a length approximately 12 inches and wingspan approximately 24 inches. The wings were noticeably long and pointed and the bird featured a large head and the tail was fanned out. Flight was buoyant. The sound recording also captured the sound of the wing flaps. When the bird landed and was not singing on 2 occasions some faint clucking sounds were heard from where it was at. These sounds were similar to sounds I have heard from the Fort Indiantown Gap bird. I departed at 9:27 PM with the bird continuing to sing.

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

The bird stayed in the same spot for almost 20 minutes singing almost continuously with occasional, short 20 second breaks. After two fellow observers left, I set up my sound equipment again and the bird flew over the road 2 times. The sound recording also captured the sound of the wing flaps. When the bird landed and was not singing on 2 occasions some faint clucking sounds were heard from where it was at. These sounds were similar to sounds I have heard from the Fort Indiantown Gap bird.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

Call clearly heard, only other option would have been an Eastern Whip-poor-will which was also singing in the area, clear differences between the song were evident. Familiar with species from 2 years of observations of recurring bird at Fort Indiantown Gap, Lebanon County.

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

Bird was first reported 6/19/15 by Stefan Karkuff. Checklist available at <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S23978222>

Soundcloud upload of my sound recording available at https://soundcloud.com/tanichols/cwwi_cumberland

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

Absolutely positive based on prior observations, confirmation of other observers present and solid recording evidence

During

Original 6/19/15 eBird report by Stefan Karkuff

After

None

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Audio

Upload images, audio, video or drawings

[150621_007.MP3](#)

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