PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2015-07-24 14:15:36
Observer's Name	Carl Engstrom
E-mail	carlengstrom@ymail.com
Observer's Address	Country: United States
Species (Common Name)	Pacific Loon
Species (Scientific Name)	Gavia pacifica
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Adult in Breeding Plumage
Observation Date and Time	07-23-2015 5:00 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S24358997
County	Bucks
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Quakertown
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Lake Nockamixon SP
Habitat	Open lake
Distance to bird	~80 yards
Description	Very clearly a PALO, a species unmistakable in breeding plumage as this bird was. Gray head and back of neck down to the body. Black and white stripes ran up and down the sides of the neck as well as on the edge of the white breast. The black throat ran down to the breast and had a white broken chinstrap cutting across it. The body of the bird was black except for the white checkering pattern of the back. The bill seemed slender and not as heavy as in other loons and was held just slightly up in the air. The red eye could occasionally be seen when the light hit the bird right.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	When first observed, the bird was diving often, sometimes going under for close to a minute at a time. Later in the day the bird was very docile spending much of its time just floating around and preening a little. Eventually a motor boat passed close by causing the bird to start diving again.
Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)	Yes
Supporting evidence (check all that apply)	Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings

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