

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2016-01-27 07:48:02
Observer's Name	Linda L Chowns
E-mail	lparleechowns@gmail.com
Phone	215-872-3014
Observer's Address	Street Address: PO Box 176 Street Address Line 2: 845 Cross Road City: Lederach State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 19450 Country: United States
Species (Common Name)	Brant (Black)
Species (Scientific Name)	Branta bernicla
Subspecies (if known)	nigricans
Number of individuals	1
Observation Date and Time	01-03-2016 1:10 AM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S26644690
County	Bucks
Location (City, Borough, Township)	New Britain Township
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Peace Valley Park, Lake Galena, Sailor's Point
Habitat	Lake
Distance to bird	50-75 feet
Viewing conditions	clear day, flat water, sunny, light breeze, perfect viewing conditions
Optical equipment used	Zeiss 7x42 binoculars and iPhone 6 to take photos
Description	Smaller and not at all similar to the Canada Geese it was associating with. Very distinct markings that identified it as a Brant.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	Floating and moving on the water amongst small flock of Canada Geese and then came to shore at water's edge.
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	Nothing else looked the same

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

I received this email a few hours after I had posted to ebird:

Linda,

I am the reviewer for eBird for Bucks and the compiler for PA Birds Journal for Bucks. It looks likely that you found a rarity as it appears to be a black form of the Brant (*Branta bernicla nigricans*).

Thought you might like to know if you hadn't noticed it yourself. In the water it would be hard to tell. If you have pictures on land, check them out.

This is on the state rare bird review list. If you have pictures that support the ID of Black Brant. You can submit the details and pix via this link.

<http://www.pabirds.org/records/index.php>

I sent someone go to PVP to check out your report and he got pix attached.

Very nice find and great that you put it in eBird. If you have any questions, feel free to ask.

Thanks,
August Mirabella

NOTE: I am attaching the photo below in your uploads section that August sent me as it would not copy as part of his email.

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

Yes. August Mirabella has verified the sighting and emailed me congratulations and the link to post to your site.

During

eBird, Birdseye app, iBird Pro

After

Peterson and Sibley field guides

Click to edit

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