

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2016-09-26 19:47:17
Observer's Name	Nancy Ott
E-mail	ednancy.ott@gmail.com
Phone	814-467-5909
Observer's Address	2039 Dark Shade Dr Windber Pa 15963 United States
Names of additional observers	Jim Rocco, Bob Gorsuch
Species (Common Name)	Swallow-tailed Kite
Species (Scientific Name)	Elanoides forficatus
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	adult
Observation Date and Time	09-06-2016 11:50 AM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Not yet (please do, eBird is great!)
County	Somerset
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Sahde Township near Central City
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Allegheny Front Hawkwatch
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.0814864,-78.7261391
Habitat	clear opening-surrounded by trees edge of ridge
Distance to bird	100 ft
Viewing conditions	cloud cover 0%-50%, visibility up to 32 km
Optical equipment used	Steiner Predator Extreme 10x42
Description	Bright white part of body caught observer's naked eye. Bright white head viewed by binocular and as observation continued as bird flew from NW over head towards west and circled, plainly seen swallow tail shape noticed. The background of the sky showed-all white head, black wing edges and tips.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	Flight pattern steady from NW, few turns and then flew south.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

Plain forked shape of tail made distinguishing this from any other bird. Head was a glowing white-smaller than any bald eagles that migrate past the hawk watch and purer white color. Black accents of wings and tails-distinct-no shading or gray. Black eye

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

Yes. Definite due to good view. Details unlike any other bird I've seen along the Allegheny Front

During

National Geographic edition -Jim Rocco

After

My own National Geographic Field Guide-fifth edition

Click to edit

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