

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2016-06-03 23:11:29
Observer's Name	Bobby Brown
E-mail	bobbybrown1011@gmail.com
Observer's Address	Country: United States
Names of additional observers	David Brown, Deb Brown, Bob Brown (in finding party); Eric Hartshaw
Species (Common Name)	Summer Tanager
Species (Scientific Name)	Piranga rubra
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Apparent first-spring male
Observation Date and Time	05-11-2016 8:10 AM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S29560720
County	Lycoming
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Montoursville
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Mill St. - Boat Launch
GPS coordinates of sighting	41.233526, -76.930792
Habitat	Edge of wooded area along river
Distance to bird	50-60ft
Viewing conditions	Fairly cloudy, backlighting was tough for photos
Optical equipment used	Swarovski EL Swarovision 8.5x42 Binocular
Description	Bird was initially picked out by its distinctive pick-ah-tuck-ah-tuck call. Large, light-colored bill. Wings did not show strong contrast to the body as a Scarlet Tanager would. Plumage details are visible in the documentation photos, but showed a lot of yellowish-green in the belly with red filling in over the rest of the bird.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	Bird was mostly near the top of one particular tree and was fairly active and appeared to be feeding. The bird was heard singing and calling.
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	The much more expected Scarlet Tanager would not show the large, light bill and low contrast wings. The song and call also did not match SCTA. Other tanagers can be eliminated by plumage and the large, light bill.

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

Others photographed the bird with better equipment, and most likely obtained better photos. Those can probably be obtained if my shots aren't sufficient for identification. Eric Hartshaw has a couple of photos on his eBird checklist:
<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S29558422>

The bird was not found at lunch time later that day.

A different Summer Tanager was seen about a mile away (at Canfield Island) the previous Sunday.

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

Yes. Plumage, song and call leave no doubt.

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph
Audio

Upload images, audio, video
or drawings

[160511_SUTAcall.wav](#)



[suta_mill1.jpg](#)



[suta_mill2.jpg](#)

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