

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2017-12-18 12:52:28
Observer's Name	Joseph Greco
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Phone	7175712933
Observer's Address	3116 Township Woods Rd East Greenville PA 18041 United States
Names of additional observers	Andrew Curtis, John Becker, Tyler Sacks
Species (Common Name)	Ash-throated Flycatcher
Species (Scientific Name)	Myiarchus
Subspecies (if known)	cinerascens
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	I cannot age Myiarchus
Observation Date and Time	12-17-2017 9:10 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Not yet (please do, eBird is great!)
Link to eBird checklist	Bird and the entire checklist of our CBC territory was submitted to ebird by Andrew Curtis.
County	Montgomery
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Upper Hanover Township Pa. (Pennsburg zip code, 18073)
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Green Lane Park, Knight Rd near Route 29, approx .4 mile east of Rt 29.
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.354213, -75.489169
Habitat	Scrubby edge of reservoir with many cedar trees
Distance to bird	15ft
Viewing conditions	Clear and cold. about 32degrees. Overcast, but partly sunny
Optical equipment used	Leica Ultravid 10x38

Description	<p>Obvious Myiarchus. Based on my local experience, I'd have called it a Great-crested if it were the appropriate time of year, however, the bird was much lighter overall than GCFL and it is not the right time of year.</p>
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	<p>Flitting about in the cedar and moving on short hops to other cedars, also making some "hawking" flights, presumably for insects, but not returning to the exact same perch from which it had left.</p>
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	<p>The others are GCFL, DCFL, BCFL and LaSagra's.</p> <p>GCFL ruled out, as the throat was too pale, it was whitish, not gray. Overall, the bird appeared lighter than a GCFL. Also the yellow on the belly of the GCFL comes up higher on the belly and meets the gray throat. On this bird, the yellow on the lower body and did not extend up the belly and the chest.</p> <p>I have no experience with DCFL, so my comments are based on Sibley. Our ATFL has bold wing bars, DCFL does not. Our ATFL has whitish edges on secondaries, DCFL does not. DCFL has a gray throat. ATFL is whitish. DCFL is a smaller bird and while size can be deceiving, my original instinct was it was the size of a GCFL, which is a inch or or larger than a DCFL.</p> <p>As for BCFL again, I have limited experience and my observations are from Sibley. The bill on our ATFL did not stand out as being large enough. BCFL has a longer bill in proportion to the head. The bill did not strike me as out of the ordinary for a GCFL, and a ATFL's bill is similar. The yellow underneath the ATFL is pale and less extensive than on BCFL.</p> <p>LaSagra's. I've never seen one. So based on Sibley, I'd say our bird has too much yellow underneath. And the LaSagra is a smaller bird, and this looked about the size of a GCFL, not like a large "empid". I did not see a bulky crest, either.</p>
Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:	<p>There are more photos available than attached some may show underside of tail, I do not know. Others photos do show more of the breast. When I can get them, I will figure out how to add them</p>
Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)	<p>If it were just me, no. But I sent photos to much more experienced birders and they think its a ATFL, too. So with the benefit of their opinions, I am confident. Also I cannot make it into any other Myiarchus in the guides.</p>
During	<p>Sibley Guide to Birds</p>
After	<p>Peterson Guide to birds</p>
Supporting evidence (check all that apply)	<p>Photograph</p>

Upload images, audio, video
or drawings



[ATFL by John Becker.jpg](#)

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