

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2018-04-02 22:00:30
Observer's Name	Joseph Gyekis
E-mail	gyekis9@gmail.com
Observer's Address	720 N. Allen St. State College PA 16803 United States
Names of additional observers	Joseph Gyekis
Species (Common Name)	Franklin's Gull
Species (Scientific Name)	Leucophaeus pipixcan
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	first winter
Observation Date and Time	03-31-2018 8:40 AM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S44112556
County	Union
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Lewisburg
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Walmart
Habitat	pavement
Distance to bird	40 ft
Viewing conditions	sun
Optical equipment used	old Kowa scope and compact binos
Description	see all pics and vids in album here https://photos.app.goo.gl/Oenj0wVhNwucTXkU2

Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)

Sleepy. Stirred and flew when a person went by, landed back on pavement closer to me. Preened a bit. Looked around a few times. Yawned at least once.

Always neat to see a bird sleeping on one leg actively rotating in the breeze. Seems like way too fast of a reflex for peaceful sleep.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

First thought Franklin's. Then after consulting Sibley thought laughing because the illustrations showed plenty of white on wingtips for Franklin's of this age and I saw no white at all, like the illustration of laughing. Was in a hurry to get somewhere by 9 so after enough pics just left and uploaded it. Posted to facebook as Laughing (?). When Alex L. replied Franklin's I just agreed. Can't really explain the difference but the neater hood, smaller bill, prominent eye arcs, etc. all stood out to help it be Franklin's. Ted Nichols posted it to a gull focused Facebook group and Amar Ayyash agreed with Franklin's. So that's how I arrived at the current understanding.

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

I'm in no position to be positive about anything, I already messed this one up, but better gull ID'ers than I seem to have a consensus

During

Sibley app

Click to edit

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