

# PA Rare Bird Report

## PORC Rare Bird Report

Please check the PA Review List before submitting a report if you are unsure whether or not the species is rare: <http://www.pabirds.org/records/index.php/review-list/>

All information submitted through this form (including photographs) will become publicly available on the [PORC website](#). You may choose to exclude your address and phone number if you prefer.

Refer to [this webpage](#) for tips on how to document your sightings.

<b>Observer's Name</b>	Scott Godshall
<b>E-mail</b>	godshallcs@hotmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	215-778-7325
<b>Observer's Address</b>	991 Camp Rd Telford, PA, 18969 United States
<b>Names of additional observers</b>	Sara Busch, Jason Hall, Jason Horn, Ken Riecker

## Documentation

<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	Least Tern
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	Sternula antillarum
<b>Number of individuals</b>	1
<b>Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)</b>	Adult in breeding plumage
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	Wednesday, June 2, 2021 20:20
<b>Did you submit this sighting to eBird?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>Link to eBird checklist</b>	<a href="https://ebird.org/checklist/S89517514">https://ebird.org/checklist/S89517514</a>
<b>County</b>	Montgomery
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	East Greenville
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	Green Lane Park - Church Rd Bird Sanctuary

<b>GPS coordinates of sighting</b>	40.38624283333391, -75.51610165038905
<b>Habitat</b>	open reservoir
<b>Distance to bird</b>	50-75 feet at it's closest
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	overcast but clear
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	Swarovski 10x50 bins, Alpen 20-60 scope

### **Description**

The bird was first spotted by another observer heading fairly close to the shore a little above eye level. As it passed in front of me I was able to see the yellow bill, white forehead and black cap on the bird. It was a brief but unobstructed look. It was also noticeable how small and dainty the bird appeared. The flight style was buoyant and fluttery. The bird proceeded along the shoreline, moving further away from us. Eventually it circled the reservoir and headed out of sight. I did not make much note of the tail and was not able to see the dark color on the primaries.

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

The bird was flying in a uniquely buoyant, somewhat fluttery style. It proceeded along the shoreline of the reservoir and circled several times at a distance. It then continued flying away out of sight.

### **Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)**

Caspian tern would be significantly bigger and bulkier and would show a hefty, red/orange bill. Both Forster's and Common tern would show a dark forehead at this time of year and would not have a yellow bill. Flight style for both of those birds would be more powerful and direct.

**Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)** Yes - yellow bill, white on forehead with black cap, small size rule out similar tern species.

## **References Consulted**

<b>During</b>	None
<b>After</b>	Sibley's Guide

## **Uploads**

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