

Bird Studies Canada/ Long Point Bird Observatory

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RARITY REPORT

In order that any sight record or banding of a rare species can be accepted for the historical record, it must be properly documented. LPBO cooperators are therefore asked to complete a form in every case where a rarity is being claimed. Guidance as to which species are considered rare in the Long Point area may be obtained from the Landbirds Program Manager. Each observer should prepare his/her description independently and preferably before consulting any field guides or other literature. PLEASE PRINT.

Species claimed: BARN OWL

No. of birds: 1

Age: unknown

Sex: possible female

Date(s): 28th October 2007

Place: Tip, Long Point

Time(s) of Observation: Early Morning

Who first saw the bird(s): Matt Slaymaker and Stu Mackenzie

Who first identified it: same

Other observers (names and addresses):

Also seen and identified independently by Stu Mackenzie, LPBO co-ordinator. Also seen by several other volunteers present at the time.

Any who disagree: No

Your previous experience with the species: Have seen many regularly throughout the UK and Europe. Stu has seen them in the southern US, and Jamaica.

Your previous experience with any closely similar species:

(a) Formerly:

Have seen various Owl species in Canada, USA + elsewhere

(b) Same day:

Bird was flushed from same bush as a Long-eared Owl + seen simultaneously

Species present for comparison: Long-eared Owl

Which were beside it for comparison:

Distance from observer(s): flushed at approx 3 yards range + seen well in flight

How measured:

Optical aids used: Swarovski SLC 8x30 and EL 8.5 X 42 binoculars

Weather conditions (at time of observation)

Visibility: Good

Cloud Cover: 2/10

Lighting: Good

Wind direction and speed:

Other relevant conditions:
(eg. rain, snow cover, etc.)

For "Waterbird " records only

Lake conditions:

Wave height:

Height of observer above lake:

Was observer's position sheltered:

Weather system preceding the date of observation (if known):

Attach weather map clipping from local or national newspaper if relevant.

Associated movements of other species:

Was the bird trapped: No

Band # if banded:

Was it photographed: No

If yes, by whom (name and address):

Specimen or parts preserved:

Present location:

Circumstances:

When opening hawk-nets near the south shore of the Tip Matt flushed 2 birds from Cedars at close range, 1, a Long-eared Owl flew south and the 2nd, the Barn Owl, flew slowly North West along the dunes towards the Swallow Cabin where it was lost to view.

Description:

Give separate description for (a) in the field (b) in the hand. Include full measurements and wing formula with hand descriptions.

Large, pale Owl with short tail, big rounded wings and typically leisurely flight. Sandy brown colour above, paler below. Large white heart-shaped facial disc + big dark eyes obvious when seen at close range, when flushed. Because of the dusky shading + spotting on the underside bird thought possibly a female.

(Continue on extra sheet if required)

Did you refer to any guides/other literature: No

(a) at the time:

(b) afterwards:

Finally, is this record 100% certain? Yes

Signed: Matt Slaymaker and Stu Mackenzie

Date:

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