

Submission Date	2012-12-19 20:12:29
Observer's Name	Tom Johnson
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Phone	7175669875
Observer's Address	Street Address: 24 Meadowood Drive City: Hummelstown State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 17036 Country: United States
Names of additional observers	Thomas Johnson
Species (Common Name)	Parasitic Jaeger
Species (Scientific Name)	Stercorarius parasiticus
Number of individuals	1
Have you submitted this to eBird?	Yes
Observation Date and Time	10-30-2012 7:00 AM
County	Philadelphia
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Philadelphia
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	Pennypack on the Delaware
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.025197,-75.0129318
Habitat	river
Distance to bird	100 meters
Viewing conditions	overcast, some light rain on/ off
Optical equipment used	Swarovski scope, Leica Ultravid
Description	Cameron Rutt spotted this bird floating downriver. It was clearly a jaeger by its size (like a small-medium gull) and pattern of dark/ light contrast. The back and wings were dark slaty-brown, almost brown-black. After careful scope study, we identified this bird as a subadult Parasitic Jaeger by its tidy dark cap that started near the top of the base of the bill and swept back to the top of the nape, more restricted in shape than Pomarine Jaeger would be at a comparable age. The bill was slim (and parallel-sided) and the head appeared very small relative to the body, good

	Parasitic traits. The pale, whitish throat blended into a smooth, darker gray nape. The flanks appeared to be marked weakly with dark bars. Tail details were not observed.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	Floating downriver. It never flew.
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	Pomarine Jaeger was eliminated by cap pattern and size/ shape of head and bill. This was too stout and dark above to be a subadult Long-tailed Jaeger.
Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)	Yes - good scope views. I've studied several hundred (probably >1000) of each species of jaeger on the coast, at sea, and on the breeding grounds). Photos are suggestive (not sure they're diagnostic though).
During	None
After	None
Supporting evidence (check all that apply)	Photograph
Upload images, audio, video or drawings	_MG_8422.jpg _MG_8423.jpg
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