

## Notes from the Record Committee's Chair Interview with Dave Vanderhall about the Barnacle Goose:

The bird was shot on January 27, 2012 during the late season for Canada Geese on private property 2 miles west of DeMotte, Indiana in Jasper County. The property is just south of the Kankakee River. The weather, strong easterly winds and snow, had pushed a significant number of Canada Geese into the area as well as some Snow and Greater White-fronted Geese. Dave felt that the weather had made a huge difference in the number and diversity of goose species in the area over prior times that he had recently been out on the property and mentioned it several times in the course of my time speaking with him.

Dave said the bird kind of appeared from nowhere and he immediately knew that it was different and that it seemed very out of place. It was much more wary of people than the Canadas that it was loosely associating with. Once he collected the bird, he identified it using the Ducks Unlimited website. He contacted Adam Phelps with DNR who in turn contacted John Castrale.

Dave said that the specimen was in immaculate condition with very thick feathers and no signs of wear that would indicate it had escaped from someone's collection. There were also no bands on the bird. When I spoke to him he said he planned to have the goose mounted and I would guess that he has had that done at this point.

Brad Bumgardner went out to Dave's house to view the specimen. He confirmed both the identity of the bird as well as the fact that it had no bands.

Included with this interview are 3 photos and a video that Dave shot shortly after the bird was collected.

The identification seems pretty straightforward but the issue of where the bird came from is sure to be a tricky one.

Rob Ripma  
IBRC Chair