

## NSW ORAC CASES DECIDED IN 2012

517	Cook's Petrel	off Ulladulla	October 19, 2009	Accepted
521	Soft-plumaged Petrel	Maroubra	May 14, 2011	Not Accepted
522	Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	off Sydney	July 9, 2011	Accepted
523	Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	off Sydney	August 13, 2011	Accepted
537	Long-toed Stint	Lake Cargelligo STW	September 26, 2011	Not Accepted
538	Scarlet-chested Parrot	N. of Broken Hill	October 26, 2011	Accepted
539	Red-backed Button-Quail	Batemans Bay	November 7, 2011	Not Accepted
540	Red-backed Button-Quail	Crowdy Bay NP	December 11, 2011	Accepted
541	Radjah Shelduck	Old Bonalbo	February 12, 2012	Accepted
542	Cape Barren Goose	Mayfield, Newcastle	April 28, 2011	Accepted
543	Cook's Petrel	off Eden	October 22, 2011	Accepted
544	Cook's Petrel	off Eden	October 23, 2011	Accepted
545	Red-backed Button-Quail	Bundjalung NP	January 21, 2012	Accepted
546	Mottled Petrel	off Eden	October 22/23, 2011	Accepted
547	White-bellied Storm-Petrel	off Port Stephens	February 27, 2010	Not Accepted
548	Bridled Tern	off Sydney	March 10, 2012	Accepted
549	Red-footed Booby	off Ulladulla	March 29, 2010	Accepted
550	Red-footed Booby	off Sydney	February 11, 2012	Accepted
551	Oriental Pratincole	Lord Howe Island	January 2, 2012	Accepted
552	Light-mantled Sooty Albatross	Stockton Beach	March 19, 2012	Accepted
553	Southern Fulmar	Wreck Bay	June 7, 2012	Accepted
554	Light-mantled Sooty Albatross	Wreck Bay	June 7, 2012	Accepted
555	Purple-crowned Lorikeet	Oaklands	June 9, 2012	Accepted
556	Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	off Eden	July 21, 2012	Accepted
557	Little Shearwater	off Sydney	July 14, 2012	Accepted
558	Little Shearwater	off Sydney	July 14, 2012	Accepted

Case 517: A Cook's Petrel *Pterodroma cookii* was seen and photographed at the shelf break off Ulladulla on October 19, 2009. This is the seventh confirmed record of Cook's Petrel for NSW. Nikolas Haass, Rob Hynson, Dan Mantle.

Case 521: A bird thought to be a dark morph Soft-plumaged Petrel *Pterodroma mollis* was seen from Mistral Point, Maroubra on May 14, 2011. Since there have been no confirmed records of dark morph Soft-plumaged Petrel in NSW, this submission resulted in some quite lengthy appraisals by committee members and resulted in a majority vote to not accept this record. There were several factors cited including the distance of the bird from the observers, no other species nearby which could be used to assess size, and the failure to eliminate the possibility of confusion species such as Kerguelen Petrel.

Case 522: A Grey-backed Storm-Petrel *Garrodia nereis* was seen and photographed on a pelagic trip off Sydney on July 9, 2011. This is the tenth confirmed record of Grey-backed Storm-Petrel for NSW. Nikolas Haass, Raja Stephenson.

Case 523: A Grey-backed Storm-Petrel *Garrodia nereis* was seen and photographed on a pelagic trip off Sydney on August 13, 2011. This is the eleventh confirmed record of Grey-backed Storm-Petrel for NSW. Rob Hynson, Raja Stephenson, Nikolas Haass.

Case 537: A bird thought to be a Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta* was seen at Lake Cargelligo STW on September 26, 2011. Several members of the committee felt that there was insufficient detailed description to support this submission and that other possible (albeit unlikely) confusion species were not convincingly eliminated. Although most members felt that the observer probably saw a Long-toed Stint, the record was not accepted.

Case 538: Two Scarlet-chested Parrots *Neophema splendida* were seen from a moving vehicle about 23km north of Broken Hill on October 27, 2011. Although there was some concern that this was too far north for this species to occur and that the habitat at the site is not suitable, the record was accepted since the observers saw the birds well and had just seen this species at Gluepot a few days earlier. This is the seventh confirmed record of Scarlet-chested Parrot for NSW. John and Sue O'Malley.

Case 539: A bird thought to be a Red-backed Button-Quail *Turnix maculosa* was seen on the north side of the Clyde River near Batemans Bay on November 7, 2011. This report generated considerable interest since, if accepted, it would have constituted a significant range extension for this species. The committee felt that the very brief description by an observer not using optical aids, the unlikely foraging habitat and the failure to describe some key identification features were cause for this submission not to be accepted.

Case 540: A Red-backed Button-Quail *Turnix maculosa* was seen at Indian Head, Crowdy Bay NP on December 11, 2011. Although some committee members felt that there were inconsistencies in the description, the record was accepted and becomes the twenty first record of Red-backed Button-Quail for NSW since 1970. Peter West, Sue Proust.

Case 541: Three Radjah Shelduck *Tadorna radjah* were seen on a large farm dam about 15km NE of Old Bonalbo on February 3, 2012. This is the seventh confirmed record of Radjah Shelduck for NSW. Terry Moody.

Case 542: A Cape Barren Goose *Cereopsis novaehollandiae* was seen at Mayfield on April 28, 2011 and what was believed to be the same individual was seen at the southern end of Newcastle Beach on May 17, 2011. As always when this species occurs this far north, the provenance has to be questioned but enquiries made to many wildfowl keepers in NSW could find no report of an escaped bird. In the absence of leg bands or

any other evidence that this was not a wild bird, the committee accepted the record. This is the sixteenth confirmed record of Cape Barren Goose for NSW. Allan Richardson, Mick Roderick, Steve Roderick, Dan Williams.

Case 543/544: A Cook's Petrel *Pterodroma cookii* was seen off Eden on October 22, 2011 (Case 543) and another individual of this species was seen off Eden on the following day October 23, 2011 (Case 544). These are the thirteenth and fourteenth confirmed records of Cook's Petrel for NSW. Tobias Hayashi, Daniel Mantle.

Case 545: A Red-backed Button-Quail *Turnix maculosa* was seen on the Woombah West Trail about 2km north of Woombah on January 21, 2012. This is the twenty second confirmed record of Red-backed Button-Quail for NSW. Peter and Bev Morgan.

Case 546: Between eight and ten individual Mottled Petrel *Pterodroma inexpectata* were seen off Eden on October 22 and October 23, 2011. These sightings constitute the twentieth confirmed record of Mottled Petrel for NSW. Tobias Hayashi.

Case 547: A bird thought to be a White-bellied Storm-Petrel *Fregetta grallaria* was seen off Port Stephens on February 27, 2010. With only a few poor quality photographs of the bird and only brief views, the observers only claimed to be 80% sure of the identification. Some committee members felt that this was reason enough not to accept the record, whereas others felt that there were sufficient identification features described in the submission to accept the record. With half of the committee voting in the negative, the record was not accepted.

Case 548: A Bridled Tern *Onychoprion anaethetus* was seen on a pelagic trip off Sydney on March 10, 2012. This is the fourteenth confirmed record for NSW. Nikolas Haass, David Mitford, David James.

Case 549: An adult white morph Red-footed Booby *Sula sula* was seen on a pelagic trip off Ulladulla on March 29, 2010. This is the tenth confirmed record of Red-footed Booby for NSW. Nikolas Haass, Raja Stephenson.

Case 550: An immature intermediate morph Red-footed Booby *Sula sula* was seen on a pelagic trip off Sydney on February 11, 2012. This is the eleventh confirmed record of Red-footed Booby for NSW. Nikolas Haass, Raja Stephenson, David James.

Case 551: An Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum* was seen on Lord Howe Island on January 2, 2012 after first being seen but not identified a week earlier. This is the fourteenth confirmed record of Oriental Pratincole for NSW although there have been other unconfirmed records from Lord Howe Island. Nikolas Haass, Raja Stephenson.

Case 552: A moribund Light-mantled Sooty Albatross *Phoebastria palpebrata* was found on Stockton Beach on March 19, 2012. This is the twentieth confirmed record of Light-mantled Sooty Albatross for NSW. Nadine Russell.

Case 553: A beach-cast Southern Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis* was found on Bherwerre Beach in Boodooree NP, Wreck Bay on June 7, 2012. This is the thirty fifth confirmed record of Southern Fulmar for NSW. Martin Schulz.

Case 554: A beach-cast Light-mantled Sooty Albatross *Phoebastria palpebrata* was found on Bherwerre Beach in Boodooree NP, Wreck Bay on June 7, 2012. This is the twenty first confirmed record of Light-mantled Sooty Albatross for NSW. Martin Schulz.

Case 555: A Purple-crowned Lorikeet *Glossopsitta porphyrocephala* was seen at Oaklands, 60km north of Corowa on June 9, 2012. This is the sixteenth confirmed record of Purple-crowned Lorikeet for NSW. Michael Ramsey.

Case 556: A Grey-backed Storm-Petrel *Garrodia nereis* was seen on a pelagic trip off Eden on July 21, 2012. This is the twelfth confirmed record of Grey-backed Storm-Petrel for NSW. Tobias Hayashi.

Case 557: A Little Shearwater *Puffinus assimilis* was seen by a British birder on a whale-watching trip off Sydney on July 14, 2012. A bird of this species was also seen from the Sydney pelagic boat on the same day and is presumed to be the same individual. There have been 27 records of Little Shearwater off NSW in the past ten years but, since this species was only recently placed on the Review List few of these records have been confirmed. Bob Proctor.

Case 558: A Little Shearwater *Puffinus assimilis* was seen on a pelagic trip off Sydney on July 14, 2012. The bird seen by Bob Proctor (Case 557) was probably the same individual. There have been 27 records of Little Shearwater off NSW in the past ten years but, since this species was only recently placed on the Review List few of these records have been confirmed. Nikolas Haass, Rob Hynson, Raja Stephenson.