



## Birds Australia Rarities Committee Unusual Record Report Form

This form is intended to aid observers in the preparation of a submission for a major rarity in Australia. (It is not a mandatory requirement) Please complete all sections ensuring that you attach all relevant information including any digital images (email to [tonyp@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tonyp@bigpond.net.au) or [a.silcocks@birdsaustralia.com.au](mailto:a.silcocks@birdsaustralia.com.au)). Submissions to BARC should be submitted electronically wherever possible.

<b>Full Name: Paul Robert Brooks, Martin Cake, Ashley Thomson, R. Bruce Richardson, Robert Shore and Els Wakefield</b>	Office Use
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<b>Address: 4 Duke St, Sandy Bay, TAS 7005</b>	
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<b>Species Name: Juan Fernandez Petrel</b>	<b>Scientific Name: <i>Pterodroma externa</i></b>
Date(s) and time(s) of observation:	14 <sup>th</sup> of January, 2018, 1022 hrs and 1025 hrs
How long did you watch the bird(s)?	Approx. 10-15 seconds
First and last date of occurrence:	14 <sup>th</sup> of January
Distance to bird:	Approx. 20 m

<b>Site Location</b> (e.g 3km SE of Lavers Hill, Victoria) Pelagic waters east of the Tasman Peninsula, Tasmania.
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<b>Habitat</b> (describe habitat in which the bird was seen, together with any neighbouring habitats): Pelagic
<b>Sighting conditions</b> (weather, visibility, light conditions etc.): Overcast and dull but good enough.
<b>Optical aids used:</b> Swarovski EL 8.5x42 binoculars

<b>To your knowledge, is the species seen frequently at this site?</b>  This is the first time this species has been recorded at this site and in Tasmanian waters.
<b>Did you use a field guide?</b> (or any other references for help with identification).  Onley, D. and Scofield, P. (2007) <i>Albatrosses, Petrels &amp; Shearwaters of the World</i> : Princeton University Press  Menkhorst, P., Rogers, D., Clarke, R., Davies, J., Marsack, P., Franklin, K. (2017) <i>The Australian Bird Guide</i> , Australia: CSIRO Publishing
<b>Were other observers present? Do any of the other observers disagree with your identification, if so,</b>

**who?** (please give names, addresses and phone numbers)? **Nobody disagrees with the identification**

Martin Cake  
Karen Dick  
Darryl Eggins  
Mona Loofs-Samorzewski  
R. Bruce Richardson  
Robert Shore  
Nicole Sommer  
Ashley Thomson  
Els Wakefield

**How confident are you of your identification?** e.g. 70%, 100%. If not 100%, why not?

100%

**Please confirm that you are willing for BARC to display your images** (fully credited with your name) electronically  
YES

**Other details:** e.g. Do you have historical and or anecdotal information/comments relating to the prior occurrence/status of the species within or near this location?

There are 2 or 3 sight records of this species in Australian waters which have yet to be recorded officially.

**Physical Description of Bird - Please describe only what you saw:**

- (1) No. of individuals present (living or dead) – 1
- (2) age (adult, juvenile, immature) and sex – presumed adult
- (3) size and shape – medium to large *Pterodroma* petrel
- (4) plumage colour and pattern (including any details of moult) Blue/grey dorsal plumage with faint darker 'M' marking across back and wings; white crescent across rump with darker tail; white underneath with very small black carpal marks and thin dark trailing edge to wing; dark patch over eye and blue/grey half-collar
- (5) colour of bill, eyes and legs/feet - black bill, feet and eyes not noted
- (6) calls – none
- (7) behaviour, movements, flight pattern, and anything else that might help to identify the bird e.g. feeding, interactions with other birds, describe where the bird was – on ground, in canopy, flying etc. Were comparisons made with other species? Typical *Pterodroma* flight and behavior.

"Please insert extra page(s) for this section"

**Please indicate other species with which you think it might be confused and how these were eliminated?**

White-necked Petrel (*Pterodroma cervicalis*): on first sighting the bird, I called out "White-necked Petrel" based on its jizz, but it quickly became obvious that the bird did not have a white neck and the carpal marks were much smaller than would be expected for White-necked Petrel.

**Was the description written from memory?** Yes and photographs

**Were photographs taken? (please include where possible) Yes**

**What experience have you had with the species in question?** (Did you know it was a Rare bird when you first saw it?)

This is the first time any of the observers had seen the species. We didn't know exactly what the bird was when we first saw it, except that it was a *Pterodroma* petrel and a very rare one (for Australia) at that.

**Name: Paul Brooks**

**Email Address: theleadboots@gmail.com**

Please email all material



1. Juan Fernandez Petrel (*Pterodroma externa*), Eaglehawk Pelagic, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (Paul Brooks)



2. Juan Fernandez Petrel (*Pterodroma externa*), Eaglehawk Pelagic, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (Martin Cake)



3. Juan Fernandez Petrel (*Pterodroma externa*), Eaglehawk Pelagic, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (Ashley Thomson)



4. Juan Fernandez Petrel (*Pterodroma externa*), Eaglehawk Pelagic, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (R. Bruce Richardson)



5. Juan Fernandez Petrel (*Pterodroma externa*), Eaglehawk Pelagic, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (Robert Shore)



6. Juan Fernandez Petrel (*Pterodroma externa*), Eaglehawk Pelagic, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (Els Wakefield)