

# BirdLife 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 [andrew.silcocks@birdlife.org.au](mailto:andrew.silcocks@birdlife.org.au)). Submissions to BARC should be submitted electronically wherever possible.

<b>Full Name:</b> Ashley Carlson	Office Use
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<b>Address:</b>	<b>Phone No:</b> (02) 6557 5393
	<b>Email:</b>

<b>Species Name:</b> New Zealand Storm-Petrel	<b>Scientific Name:</b> <i>Fregatta maoriana</i>
Date(s) and time(s) of observation:	Early / mid morning on 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
How long did you watch the bird(s)?	First sighted at approximately 09:15 and bird disappeared and reappeared twice more to approximately 10:00
First and last date of occurrence:	As above
Distance to bird:	Less than 12 metres

<b>Site Location</b>
-31.780393, 153.169196 - Approximately 40km's from both Crowdy Head lighthouse and Perpendicular Point, Laurieton

<b>Habitat</b> (describe habitat in which the bird was seen):
Pelagic ocean, approximately 300 metre water depth at 26°
<b>Sighting conditions</b> (weather, visibility, light conditions etc.):
Predominately clear sky, less than 10% cloud

<b>To your knowledge, is the species seen frequently at this site?</b>
No. Records to date suggest vagrant to SE Australian coast during summer and autumn
<b>Were other observers present. Do any of the other observers disagree with your identification, if so, who?</b> (please give names, addresses and phone numbers)?
Seven observers were present on the boat. Five, including myself, have agreed with the NZSP identification. The sixth, believes it to be a New Caledonian (Coral Sea) Storm-Petrel. The seventh has not responded to two email requests to provide commentary. The remaining five contact emails are as follows: Micheal Kearns - Nick Thompson Janis Cossill - Bronwyn Ellis Bill Bacon -

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

95% - There is still conjecture over the full taxonomic and plumage description of the New Caledonian SP

**Please confirm that you are willing for BARC to display your images** (fully credited with your name) electronically  
YES or ~~NO~~

On behalf of the photographer - Michael Kearns

**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?

No

**Physical Description of Bird - *Please describe only what you saw:*** (1) No. of individuals present (living or dead); (2) age (adult, juvenile, immature) and sex; (3) size and shape; (4) plumage colour and pattern (including any details of moult); (5) colour of bill, eyes and legs/feet; (6) calls; (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?

Single bird observed on three occasions during three quarters of an hour period. Bird presumed to be the same individual. For description, refer to attached photos

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

White-bellied Storm-Petrel (*F. grallaria*) - Feet do not protrude beyond tail, extent of streaking along flanks

New Caledonian (Coral Sea) Storm-Petrel - Extent of white on the underwing coverts (extends into the primaries area on subject bird), extent of streaking along the flanks

**Was the description written from memory?**

The determination was made from the photos post trip

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

Yes (see attached). All photos are credited to Michael Kearns

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

No experience to this particular species and limited experience to other similar Storm-Petrel's

**Name:** Ashley Carlson \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:**

Please email all material



SP\_01



SP\_02



SP\_03



SP\_05



SP\_04





SP\_06



SP\_07



SP\_08