

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 or andrew.silcocks@birdlife.org.au). Submissions to BARC should be submitted electronically wherever possible.

Full Name: Demetrios Bertzeletos	Office Use
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Address:	Phone No: Email:
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Species Name: Hudsonian Godwit	Scientific Name: <i>Limosa haemastica</i>
Date(s) and time(s) of observation:	24.03.2019 at about 10:30 am. Last seen by Geoff Hutchinson on the 31.03.2019
How long did you watch the bird(s)?	About 30 minutes on the 24.03.2019. Multiple observers saw the bird between the above dates
First and last date of occurrence:	See above
Distance to bird: about 8 meters	

Site Location Lake Wollumboola, Culburra NSW.
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Habitat (describe habitat in which the bird was seen): Sandy. Coastal shallow lake.
Sighting conditions (weather, visibility, light conditions etc.): Slightly overcast with a bit of wind.

To your knowledge, is the species seen frequently at this site? This is the third record of the species for this location.
Were other observers present Do any of the other observers disagree with your identification, if so, who? (please give names, addresses and phone numbers)? None. Multiple observers saw the bird during its stay.
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 or NO. Go ahead.

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?
Please refer to BARC cases 896 and 1006. Cases 999 and 1006 may refer to the same bird, though impossible to prove:
The bird overwintered as 1cy as described in 1006 at the lake, it then spent the Austral summer in Tasmania as per case 999 and it then undertook its first migration this year doing a pit stop at the lake for a short period of time.

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?

A *Limosa* with black auxiliaries can only be a Hudsonian Godwit. Other key features were also seen, but for brevity's sake I won't go over them again (this is now my fourth sighting of the species in Australia!). It was in a flock of Alaskan Bar-tailed Godwits (*I. lapponica baueri*).

The bird had partly completed its moult into breeding plumage. Given the length of the beak and the orange red plumage rather than rusty red colouration of the underparts, I would tentatively sex the bird as a female.

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

Please refer to the images.

Was the description written from memory?

Were photographs taken? (please include where possible) Yes, again feel free to use these.

What experience have you had with the species in question? It's my fourth sighting of the species in Australia. I identified immediately upon having it fly in and join the bar-tailed godwits I was photographing.

Name: Demetrios Bertzeletos

Email Address



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