

## BirdLife Australia Rarities Committee

### Unusual Record Report Form

This form is intended to aid observers in the preparation of a submission to document a major rare bird in Australia. Its use is NOT mandatory. Please attach and/or include all relevant information including any digital images. Please Email the completed form/submission to the BARC Chair, Tony Palliser [tonyp@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tonyp@bigpond.net.au)

BARC considers submissions that include a minimum of the submitter's name(s), the bird species claimed and the location and date(s) of the record. However, more information and evidence will usually be required for BARC to accept a record. So, please submit as much detailed information about the bird as possible.

If you choose not to use this form please make sure all relevant information requested in this form is included in your submission. However, it is our preference that you fully complete sections "A" and "B", or follow their headings, so that BARC has some continuity between all submissions.

| Section A: Submitter details               |              |
|--|--------------|
| Your name(s)<br>Joint submissions are fine | Colin Davies |
| Your email, phone or address               | UK           |

| Section B: Record details   |  |
|---|--|
| Common and scientific names<br>Include subspecies if relevant   | King Penguin <i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>  |
| Site location<br>(with GPS if possible)   | Bruny Island Neck, Bruny Island, Tasmania, -43.290131, 147.330946  |
| Date(s) and time(s) of record<br>(First and last date of occurrence if known)   | January 29 <sup>th</sup> 2020  |
| How many individuals were there?  | 1  |
| What was the distance to the bird(s)?   | 50m  |
| Habitat description   | Beach  |
| Sighting conditions<br>(e.g. weather, visibility, light conditions)   | Warm, sunny, clear   |
| How confident are you in the identification<br>(as a %) and why?  | 100%. Because it was such a good view and it was an adult.   |
| Did you find and/or identify the bird initially? Who else recorded the bird and do they agree with the identification?                      | Yes. We randomly stopped at the beach without any prior knowledge of its presence and immediately saw the bird. There were others watching it whilst we were there but they all looked like tourists and none appeared to have binoculars. I'm not aware of any other birders present. |
| What experience have you had with this species?   | None.  |
| Has this species been seen at this location before? When?   | I believe that a king penguin was been seen around the Hobart area over Christmas 2019 and into early January, but having seen photos of that bird I'm not convinced that this is the same bird due to it's state of moult.  |
| Have photographs of the bird or discussion of it occurred on the internet? (Please provide the site name, a summary, electronic link, etc.) | Yes I have posted photographs of the bird on a couple of birding Facebook sites, "Seabirds and Pelagics Australia" and "Tasmanian bird sightings and photography". There is no doubt about the id from the photos.   |

Do you permit BARC to display your images etc. electronically (credited with your name)

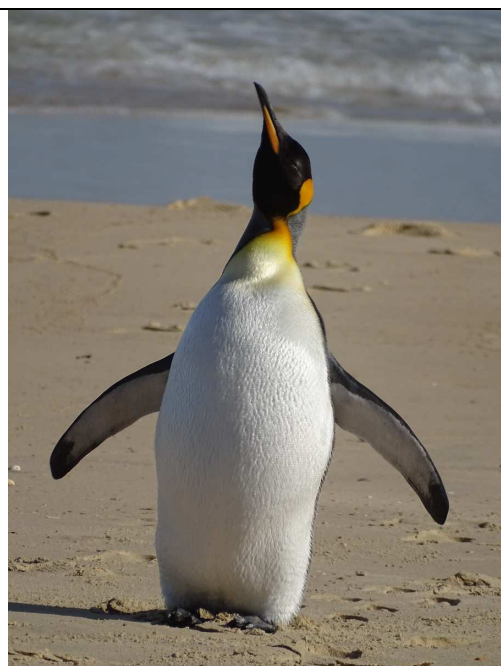
Yes

You may choose to delete or ignore this page, but please include as much of the requested information in your submission as possible, especially Sections C and E.

### Section C: Supporting evidence

Please include evidence that supports the identification, such as photographs, video, call recordings, etc. Digital images can be pasted into this document below, at the end, or provided separately. Digital video and sound recordings can be sent separately to this form. Label photos etc or insert captions to make note of relevant features they show.





| <b>Section D: Description of the bird(s)</b>  |   |
|---|---|
| Please provide a description of the bird(s) including all identification features recorded. Provide all possible details that might corroborate the identification. |   |
| <b>Plumage</b>  | It was a pristine adult king penguin. Glossy white belly, black upperparts, about 1m tall. Golden patch on the side of the head like an inverted tear drop. |
| <b>Bare parts</b>   | Black   |
| <b>Moult details</b>  | It looked in pristine condition and fully moulted.  |
| <b>Structure and 'jizz'</b>   | 1m tall penguin   |
| <b>Calls</b>  | Trumpeting braying call   |
| <b>Behaviours</b>   | When calling it threw it's head back, spread its flippers and trumpeted, then dropped its head to its chest. Apart from that it just stood on the beach.    |
| <b>Age, sex and/or taxonomy</b>   | Adult (male?).  |

**Section E: Confusion species**

Please indicate other species that the bird(s) might be confused with and how they can be eliminated

Separated from emperor penguin by a dark line enclosing the golden patch on the side of the head.

**Section F: References and aids**

Did you use books, journal articles or on-line sites or pages to help you prepare this submission? Which ones?

When I first saw it I wasn't sure between emperor or king penguin so I referred to "The Australian Field Guide" which was pretty conclusive.

Would you like to acknowledge the assistance of others in the identification process or preparation of this submission?

No, it's one of the most straight forward submissions I have ever been involved with.