

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

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) Joint submissions are fine	Peter Kyne
Your email, phone or address	.

Section B: Record details	
Common and scientific names Include subspecies if relevant	House Swift <i>Apus nipalensis</i>
Site location (with GPS if possible)	This submission concerns 2 birds seen at Casuarina Coastal Reserve, Darwin, Northern Territory (-12.37167°, 130.86256°) on 2 separate days. Additional sightings occurred at various locations in coastal suburbs of Darwin; see Figure 1, Table 1, and Appendices II–XI).
Date(s) and time(s) of record (First and last date of occurrence if known)	This submission concerns at least 2 birds seen from 18:30 on 01/04/2019 and at least 2 from 07:30 on 04/04/2019. Additional sightings are listed in Table 1: First date of occurrence: 27/01/2019; last date of occurrence: 13/05/2019.
How many individuals were there?	This submission concerns 2 birds seen on 01/04/2019 and 2 on 04/04/2019. On both dates, 2 birds were confirmed as they were in the same view, but there were possibly 3 or more birds on each day. Additional sightings are listed in Table 1 with a range of 1–7 individuals (total of n = 12 sightings).
What was the distance to the bird(s)?	Hard to judge as birds were aerial but estimated within range of 50–300 m. Notes from 01/04/19: Swifts arrived at about 1830. Among them were at least 2 House Swifts, probably 3, and possibly more. In total we had 8 views of House Swifts but cannot be sure of the exact number of individual birds. The first two birds were seen at the same time so we can be sure that there were at least 2. Swifts were low allowing close and long views, so much so that House Swifts were identifiable with the naked eye, which allowed them to be picked out of the flock and then confirmed and studied with binoculars, some being followed for several minutes.
Habitat description	Airspace above Casuarina Coastal Reserve, specifically over a small area of grassland between dunes and a sandy beach (Casuarina Beach) to the west and mangroves and the tidal reaches of Rapid Creek to the east.

<p>Sighting conditions (e.g. weather, visibility, light conditions)</p>	<p>Lighting and visibility were very good on the morning of 04/04/19 when the birds were photographed. Lighting was poorer on the late afternoon of 01/04/19. For example, while the House Swifts could be clearly identified with the naked eye (see notes above), the pale throat was not overly apparent in this light.</p> <p>At the time (early April 2019), there was a tropical low system to the north of the Top End which was moving to the southwest.</p>
<p>How confident are you in the identification (as a %) and why?</p>	<p>100%. Multiple photographs were taken (see Figures 2–3), and other swift and hirundine species were eliminated.</p>
<p>Did you find and/or identify the bird initially? Who else recorded the bird and do they agree with the identification?</p>	<p>Following the report of a bird found in The Gardens (a suburb of Darwin) on 27/01/19, which was taken into care (Appendix II) and subsequently released locally, John Rawsthorne located a bird over Nightcliff on 27/02/19 (Appendix III). Following this, I was more conscious of looking for and scanning through Pacific Swift flocks. On 01/04/19, I located a large flock over Casuarina Coastal Reserve at the end of the day and scanned the flock for House Swifts. A search of the area on 02/04/19 didn't locate any swifts, but birds were located on the morning of 04/04/19 and photographed.</p> <p>Christy Davies was present with me on both days, observed the birds, and agreed with the identification.</p>
<p>What experience have you had with this species?</p>	<p>I have observed House Swift previously in Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, and Vietnam (see Appendix I). However, I do not pretend to be a swift/swiftlet expert and acknowledge the difficulties with identification in this group. House Swift is a relatively easy species to identify and the Darwin observations benefited from having Pacific Swift in the same view.</p>
<p>Has this species been seen at this location before? When?</p>	<p>There was an apparent influx of the species into Darwin during early 2019 with numerous sightings between 27/01/2019 and 13/05/2019 (summarized in Table 1). There are no previous records of the species in Darwin.</p> <p>Prior to 2019, there is one previous NT record at Point Stuart (Van Diemen Gulf, east of Darwin) (BARC 91; Robertson 1980).</p>
<p>Have photographs of the bird or discussion of it occurred on the internet? (Please provide the site name, a summary, electronic link, etc.)</p>	<p>All sightings of House Swift in Darwin between January and May 2019 (see Table 1) were logged on eBird: https://ebird.org/species/houswi1/AU-NT-DAR</p> <p>Records were accepted by eBird reviewers.</p>
<p>Do you permit BARC to display your images etc. electronically (credited with your name)</p>	<p>Yes, permission is granted. Photos in Figures 2–4 should be credited to Peter M. Kyne.</p>

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.

Photos taken on 04/04/19 are provided in Figure 2 (House Swift), Figure 3 (comparison of House Swift and Pacific Swift), and Figure 4 (additional photos of Pacific Swift). Individual photos have also been provided with this submission. Additional photos from 04/04/19 are available if the Committee requires another specific angle/view.

Section D: Description of the bird(s)	
Please provide a description of the bird(s) including all identification features recorded. Provide all possible details that might corroborate the identification.	
Plumage	Overall dark brown-black plumage with the exception of pale throat and prominent white rump which extended onto rear flanks.
Bare parts	Legs and feet: not observed or apparent in any photos. Bill (based on photos): greyish-black; Inside of mouth not observed or apparent in any photos. Eyes (based on photos): blackish.
Moult details	No attempt is made here to comment on moult. However, John Rawsthorne outlined a consideration of tail and wing moult in his sighting of 27/02/19, noting ‘the tail shape when fanned was regular and did not have particular gaps due to moult or other irregularities’ and ‘the bird wing shape showed no signs of primary or secondary moult’ (see Appendix III; https://ebird.org/checklist/S53175297).
Structure and ‘jizz’	Small short-bodied swifts, noticeably smaller than the Pacific Swifts they were associating with. Wings were short and blunt, broadest at the base, differing from the longer, more prominently sickle-shaped wings of Pacific Swift. Tail was short with a shallow fork; the outer tips of the tail were rounded (outermost rectrices not longer than others).
Calls	No vocalisations were heard.
Behaviours	Birds observed on both days were mixed with Pacific Swifts and appeared to be feeding. In general, the swifts were moving slowly in a northerly direction on both days. In the excitement and in attempting to photograph the birds on 04/04/19, I did not make any notes on flight style or pattern. However, John Rawsthorne did provide some comments in his eBird checklists regarding a differing flight pattern to that of accompanying Pacific Swifts (see Appendices).
Age, sex and/or taxonomy	<p>No attempt was made to age or sex individuals.</p> <p>There are four recognised subspecies of House Swift (del Hoyo <i>et al.</i> 1999, Chandler and Driessens 2000). <i>A. n. furcatus</i> is geographically closest to northern Australia (‘Java and Bali’ in Chandler and Driessens 2000) although the previous NT record was identified as <i>A. n. subfurcatus</i> (Robertson 1980; Higgins 1999). This subspecies’ range includes the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, and Borneo (Chandler and Driessens 2000).</p> <p>Examination of photos suggest that at least the bird(s) photographed in Darwin on 04/04/19 were possibly also <i>A. n. subfurcatus</i> based on degree of tail furcation and the rounded outer tail which suggests that the two outermost rectrices are not longer than others rectrices as seen in <i>A. n. furcatus</i> (see Figure 59 of Chandler and Driessens 2000). This attempt at subspecific identification is tentative only, although it is supported by John Rawsthorne’s comment regarding his 03/04/19 sighting ‘Small swift, white throat, short notched tail that appeared rounded on edges when flared’ (see Appendix V; https://ebird.org/checklist/S54507059) and by the close-up photo of the individual taken into care on 27/01/19 (see Appendix II; https://ebird.org/australia/checklist/S52321831). That individual had the appearance of a rounded outer tail and also showed some dark streaking on the white rump, consistent with <i>A. n. subfurcatus</i> and in contrast to <i>A. n. furcatus</i> which shows a clean white rump (See Figure 59 of Chandler and Driessens 2000).</p>

Section E: Confusion species
Please indicate other species that the bird(s) might be confused with and how they can be eliminated
<p>Hirundinidae: All swallows and martins can be eliminated by plumage and shape (particularly wing-shape which is described in Menkhorst <i>et al.</i> (2017) as ‘more angular and flexible’ than swifts). These groups also differ in flight style but that is not described in this submission. Locally recorded hirundines have pale underparts which eliminates all species. Four Tree Martins <i>Petrochelidon nigricans</i> were present at the time the House Swifts were seen on 04/04/19. Tree Martins can be eliminated by plumage, including pale underparts.</p> <p>Apodidae: Identification, taxonomy, and nomenclature of swifts and swiftlets is complex. However, House Swift is relatively easily identified. The only swift to regularly occur in the Northern Territory is Pacific Swift <i>Apus</i></p>

pacificus which occurs in considerable numbers. Before dealing with that species, other groups/species can be eliminated as follows:

- Swiftlets: The birds subject to this submission were considered too large and bulky to be swiftlets. Size, together with plumage (all-dark plumage with the exception of prominent white rump and pale throat eliminates all swiftlets including Australian Swiftlet *Aerodramus terrareginae* (Queensland) and possible vagrant *Collocalia* and *Aerodramus* species, including yet to be identified vagrant ‘dark-rumped’ (see <https://ebird.org/checklist/S69551917>) and ‘pale-rumped’ (see <https://ebird.org/checklist/S69605297>) swiftlets seen in Darwin in May 2020 (BARC submissions pending);
- White-throated Needletail: This species is rarely observed in the Northern Territory although myself and others observed and photographed five birds on 17 March 2018 above Nightcliff (see <https://ebird.org/checklist/S43712061>). The characteristic plumage pattern of this species (large white throat patch and white undertail-coverts which extends along the flanks) together with the short square tail, eliminates this species from further consideration (white undertail-coverts extending along the flanks and the short square tail also eliminates potential vagrant needletail species);
- White-rumped *Apus* species: Apart from House Swift and Pacific Swift, 3 other *Apus* swifts have white rumps. These can be eliminated as follows:
 - Little Swift *Apus affinis* (Africa to India; no Australian records): short square tail eliminates this unlikely species;
 - Horus Swift *Apus horus* (Africa; no Australian records): longer, more prominently forked tail eliminates this unlikely species; and,
 - White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer* (Africa and southern Europe; no Australian records): the long, deeply-forked tail eliminates this unlikely species.
- Pacific Swift *Apus pacificus*: The House Swift sightings reported here were in the company of, and mostly in the same view as, Pacific Swifts (estimated 200 birds on 01/04/19 and estimated 120 birds on 04/04/19) allowing direct comparison in the field (see comparison photos in Figure 3, both taken on 04/04/19). The observed House Swifts were separated from Pacific Swift (including the possibility of Pacific Swift in tail moult) by the following combination of characters:
 - Noticeably smaller than Pacific Swifts;
 - Shorter, blunter winged, lacking the long narrow sickle-shaped wings of Pacific Swifts;
 - Shorter bodied than Pacific Swifts, with short, shallow-forked tails; and,
 - Lack of white scalloping on underparts (this feature of Pacific Swift is clearly shown in Figures 3B and 4).

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?

- Chandler, P. and Driessens, G. (2000). Swifts. *A Guide to the Swifts and Treeswifts of the World*. Second Edition. Yale University Press, New Haven.
- del Hoyo, J., Elliot, A., & Sargatal, J. (eds.) (1999). *Handbook of the Birds of the World. Volume 5. Barn-owls to Hummingbirds*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona.
- Eaton, J.A., van Balen, B., Brickle, N.W., & Rheindt, F.E. (2016). *Birds of the Indonesian Archipelago. Greater Sundas and Wallacea*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona.
- Higgins, P.J. (Ed.) (1999). *Handbook and Australian, New Zealand & Antarctic Birds. Volume 4. Parrots to Dollarbird*. Oxford University Press, South Melbourne.
- Menkhorst, P., Rogers, D., Clarke, R., Davies, J., Marsack, P., & Franklin, K. (2017). *The Australian Bird Guide*. CSIRO Publishing, Clayton South.
- Robertson, D.G. (1980). First record of the House Swift *Apus affinis* (Apodidae) in Australia. *Australian Bird Watcher* 8, 239–242.

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

This submission was reviewed by Christy Davies who was present on both 01/04/19 and 04/04/19 and clearly viewed the House Swifts, and John Rawsthorne who was responsible for 7 of the 12 Darwin sightings reported in Table 1.

Table 1. Summary of House Swift sightings in Darwin, Northern Territory in 2019. Location # corresponds to numbers shown on Figure 1. Bold rows are the primary subject of this submission.

Sighting #	Location #	Location	Date	# birds	Photos	Observers	eBird checklist
1	1	Gardens Park	27/01/19	1	Y	Reported on Birdline NT	https://ebird.org/australia/checklist/S52321831
2	2	Jacksonia Crt, Nightcliff	27/02/19	1	N	John Rawsthorne	https://ebird.org/checklist/S53175297
3	3	Casuarina Coastal Reserve	01/04/19	2	N	Peter Kyne, Christy Davies	https://ebird.org/checklist/S54439502
4	4	Undoolya St, Tiwi	01/04/19	2	N	Mark Conboy	https://ebird.org/australia/checklist/S54440032
5	5	East Point	03/04/19	1	N	John Rawsthorne	https://ebird.org/checklist/S54507059
6	3	Casuarina Coastal Reserve	04/04/19	2	Y	Peter Kyne, Christy Davies	https://ebird.org/checklist/S54530040
7	2	Jacksonia Crt, Nightcliff	12/04/19	2	N	John Rawsthorne	https://ebird.org/checklist/S54843447
8	2	Jacksonia Crt, Nightcliff	13/04/19	7	N	John Rawsthorne, Magen Pettit, Clive Garland	https://ebird.org/checklist/S54882536
9	2	Jacksonia Crt, Nightcliff	29/04/19	6	N	John Rawsthorne, Kim Rawsthorne	https://ebird.org/checklist/S55532933
10	2	Jacksonia Crt, Nightcliff	11/05/19	1	N	John Rawsthorne	https://ebird.org/checklist/S56107633
11	6	Bauhinia St, Nightcliff	12/05/19	1	N	Marc Gardner, Ben Hoffman, Luke Hoffman	https://ebird.org/checklist/S56147956
12	2	Jacksonia Crt, Nightcliff	13/05/19	3	Y	John Rawsthorne	https://ebird.org/checklist/S56197669

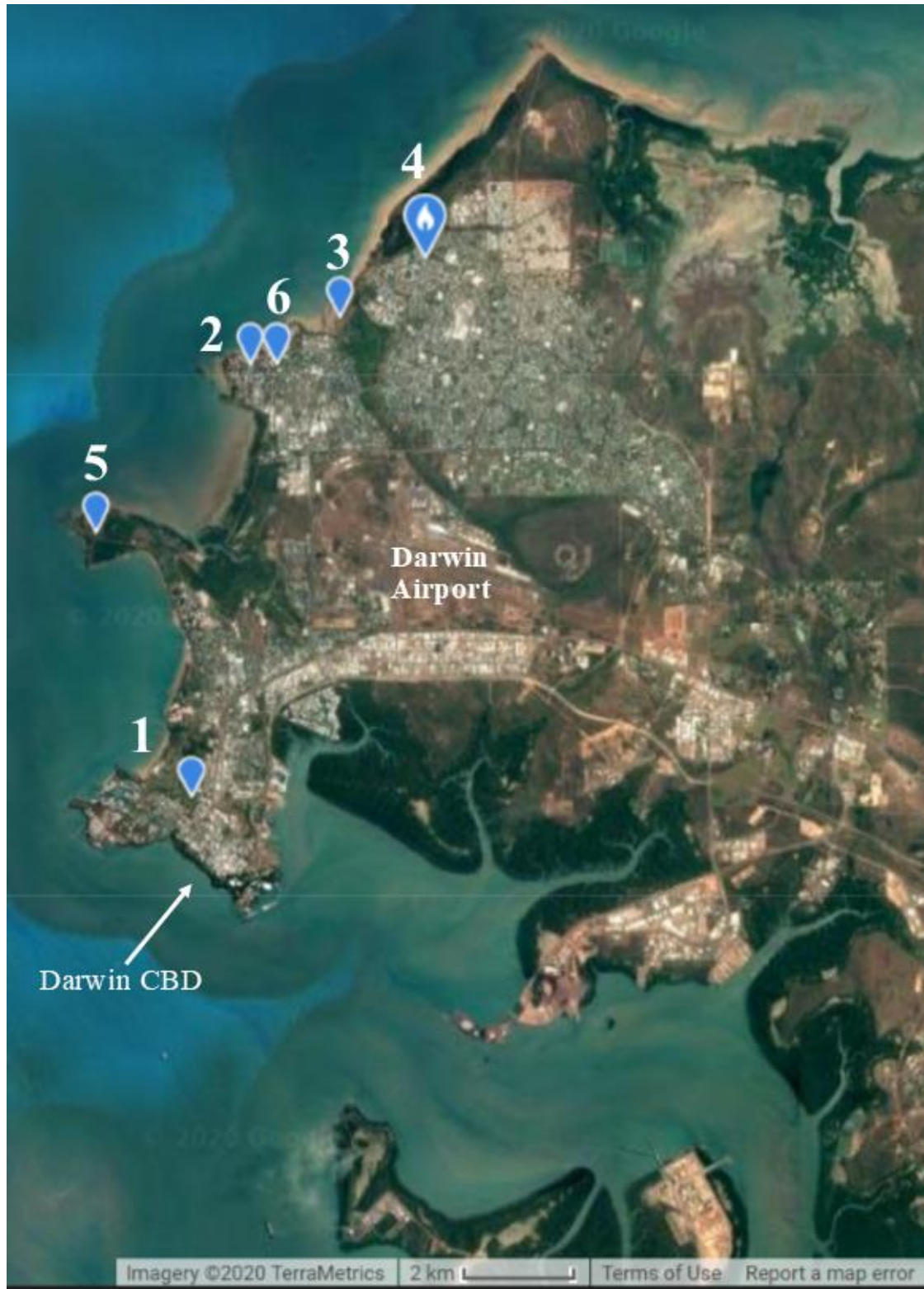


Figure 1. Locations of House Swift sightings in Darwin, Northern Territory, January to May 2019. Map modified from eBird (<https://ebird.org/species/houswi1/AU-NT-DAR>; accessed 15 August 2020). Numbers correspond to sighting locations in Table 1 and are in chronological order from the first sighting (27 January; location #1) to the last sighting (13 May 2019; location #6). This submission primarily concerns two sightings at location #3.

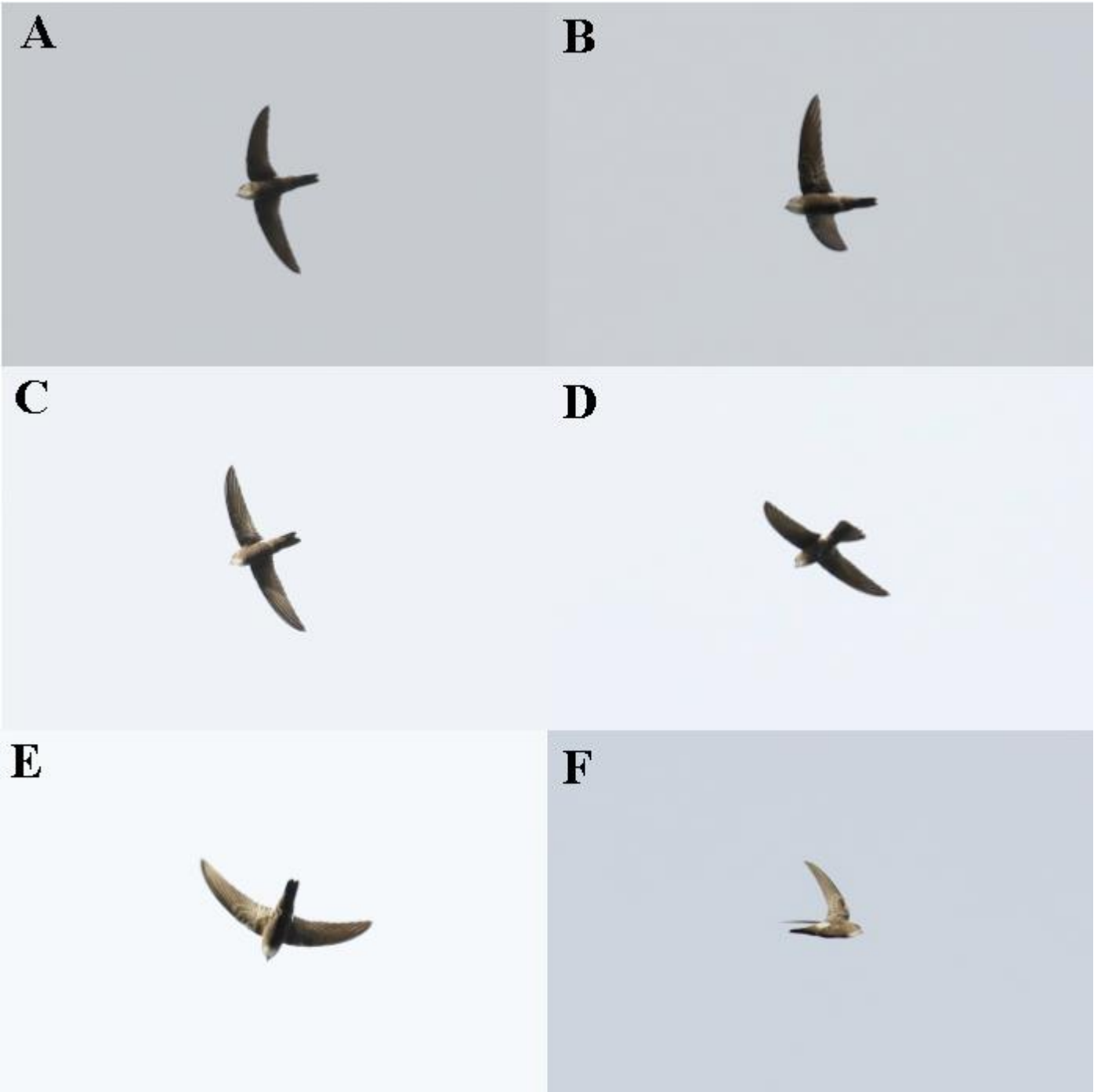


Figure 2. House Swift, Casuarina Coastal Reserve, Darwin, Northern Territory, 04/04/19. These photos show the key features used to identify this species and separate it from Pacific Swifts which were present at the same site (see Figure 3). Identification features apparent in these photos include: mostly dark plumage, white rump (extending onto the rear flanks), pale white throat, and short shallow-forked tail.

A**B**

Figure 3. Comparison of (A) House Swift and (B) Pacific Swift, Casuarina Coastal Reserve, Darwin, Northern Territory, 04/04/19. The observed House Swifts were smaller than Pacific Swifts, were shorter-winged, lacking the long sickle-shaped wings of Pacific Swifts, were shorter-bodied with short shallow-forked tails compared to the long deeply-forked tail of the Pacific Swift (see also Figure 4). Note the prominent white scalloping of the underparts of Pacific Swift which is lacking in House Swift.

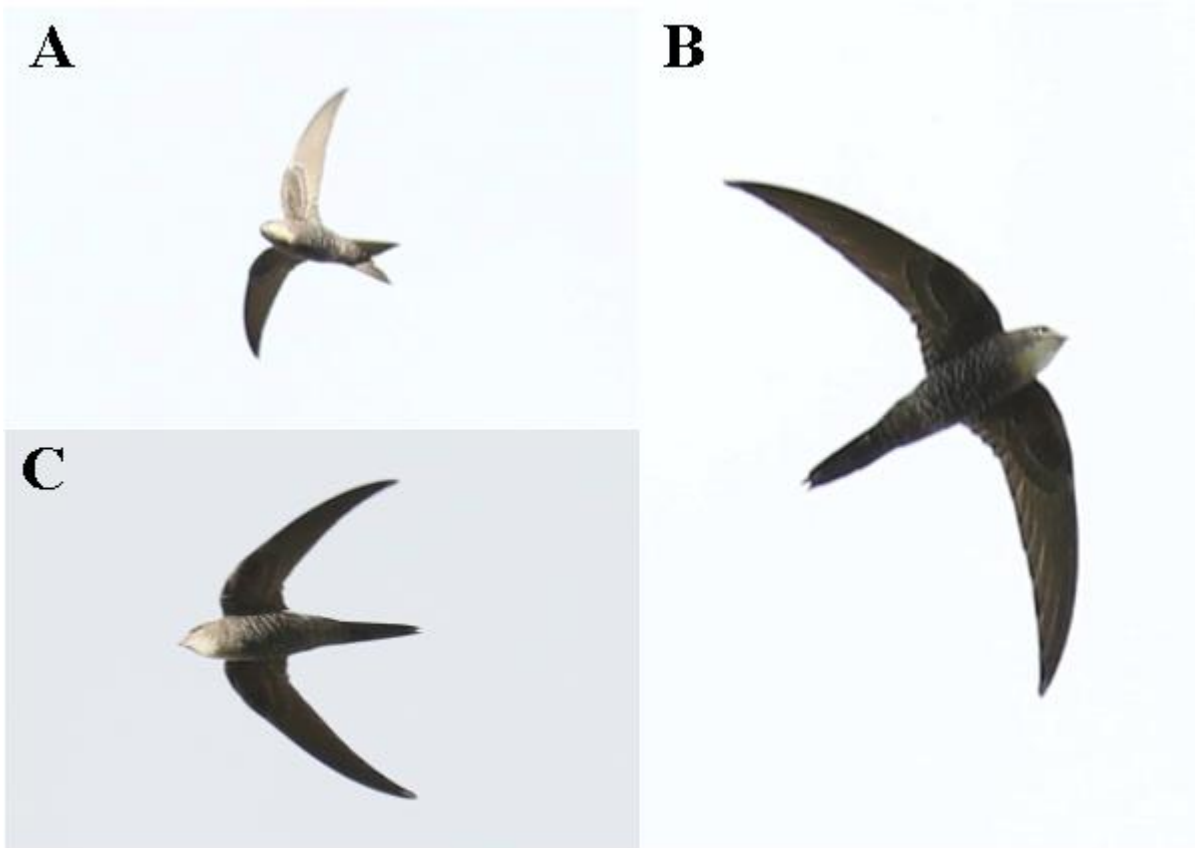


Figure 4. Additional photos of Pacific Swift, Casuarina Coastal Reserve, Darwin, Northern Territory, 04/04/19. These photos along with Figure 3B show the long tail which is deeply-forked or long and pointed.

APPENDICES

Appendix I. Personal House Swift sightings (sourced from eBird).

My eBird Download (csv)

House Swift

World Life Observations

20 Observations 142 individuals

First Seen **30 Jul 2012** Last Seen **10 Sep 2019** High Count **16 Dec 2016 (30)**

Updated 5 sec ago. SORT BY Date: Oldest First ▾

	DATE	COUNT	LOCATION
1. House Swift	30 Jul 2012	# X	Bako NP MY-13
2. House Swift	27 Dec 2013	# 2	Mount Lang Bian VN-35
3. House Swift	28 Dec 2013	# 2	Bi Doup Nui Ba National Park—Yang Ly VN-35
4. House Swift	16 Dec 2016	# 30	Horizon Hotel, Kota Kinabalu MY-12
5. House Swift	18 Dec 2016	# 10	Shazhan Hotel, Bukit Fraser MY-06
6. House Swift	18 Dec 2016	# 10	Bukit Fraser--Telekom Loop MY-06
7. House Swift	19 Dec 2016	# 5	Bukit Fraser--Bishop's Trail MY-06
8. House Swift	25 Aug 2017	# 2	Bantimurung NP ID-SL
9. House Swift	27 Aug 2017	# 5	(-8.6869,115.2598) ID-NU
10. House Swift	31 Aug 2017	# 5	Bogor ID-JW
11. House Swift	26 Mar 2018	# 20	Ibis Jakarta Arcadia ID-JW
12. House Swift	28 Mar 2018	# 2	Jakarta--Monas ID-JW
13. House Swift	30 Mar 2018	# 4	Jakarta--Monas ID-JW
14. House Swift	01 Apr 2019	# 2	Casuarina Coastal Reserve AU-NT
15. House Swift	04 Apr 2019	# 2	Casuarina Coastal Reserve AU-NT
16. House Swift	08 Sep 2019	# 1	TW-Beitou District-No. 52-1 Quanyuan Road (25.1409,121.5097) TW-TPE
17. House Swift	08 Sep 2019	# 25	台北--台北植物园(Taipei--Taipei Botanical Garden) TW-TPE
18. House Swift	09 Sep 2019	# 10	(24.2195,120.8796) TW-TXG
19. House Swift	09 Sep 2019	# 1	台中大雪山IBA--大雪山林道0-15K(標示在9K附近)(Dasyueshan IBA--Dasyueshan Forest-Road 0-15K) TW-TXG
20. House Swift	10 Sep 2019	# 4	(24.2425,120.8630) TW-TXG

Appendices II–XI.

Details of additional House Swift sightings taken from eBird checklists (see Table 1).

Appendix II. Gardens Park, 27/01/19 (Table 1 & Figure 1: sighting #1; location #1). Submitted by Birdline NT. Screenshot taken from <https://ebird.org/australia/checklist/S52321831>

1 House Swift

Fatigued bird found and in care. White, dumped, nearly square tail, dark underside



Appendix III. Jacksonia Court, Nightcliff, 27/02/19 (Table 1 & Figure 1: sighting #2; location #2). Observed by John Rawsthorne. Screenshot taken from <https://ebird.org/checklist/S53175297>

20 Pacific Swift

tight flock, feeding well above tree tops

1 House Swift

Single different swift flying with Pacific Swifts. Brief but clear views showed a single swift that was noticeably smaller than Pacific Swift, bright white rump, significantly shorter tail than nearby Pacific Swifts and different wing shape, with wings broader at base and less elongated. More 'triangular' than 'banana-shaped'. Underside grey/brownish in harsh light. No particular observations of throat or other features.

(The above notes were made on the day of the sighting. The following notes have been compiled subsequently based on research.)

Research on characters of House Swift from a range of references has not found any contradiction for that species, and has led me to record the following further notes about the sighting:

1. Tail shape when fanned was quite broad (like the fanned tail image for house swift in ABG), but I was not left with a precise impression either way on whether the edges of the tail were rounded or straight edged when fanned. I do not now recall anything particular about closed tail shape, apart from the observation above that the tail was much shorter relative to the body length than nearby pacific swifts.
2. I do not recall anything particular about the flight patterns of this bird, relative to nearby pacific swifts, and do not recall having an impression of this bird having different flight characteristics to nearby pacific swifts.
3. There is a possibility of the bird being a pacific swift in tail moult, but this seems unlikely because:
 - the tail shape when fanned was regular and did not have particular gaps due to moult or other irregularities (I am quite familiar with patterns that would be observed by birds in tail moult, as I am an A-class bander and regularly make observations in the hand of tail moult patterns)
 - the bird overall was noticeably smaller than pacific swifts nearby
 - the bird wing shape showed no signs of primary or secondary moult and was noticeably different to pacific swifts nearby
 - none of the many other pacific swifts I have observed before and after this bird in the past month have shown any evidence of tail or wing moult.
4. I am familiar with a range of swiftlets, swallows and martins, and I am confident this was none of those. This bird did not have the light, bouncy flight of a swiftlet or the flutter/glide flight of a martin. It was larger than I would expect of a swiftlet and did not have the pale underside of a swallow or martin. My research and inquiries with other birders on possible confusion species has not revealed any other credible confusion contenders.

A House Swift was released from care in Darwin about two weeks prior to the sighting - this may be that bird.

Appendix IV. Undoolya Street, Tiwi, 01/04/19 (Table 1 & Figure 1: sighting #4; location #4). Observed by Mark Conboy. Screenshot taken from <https://ebird.org/australia/checklist/S54440032>

110 Pacific Swift

2 House Swift

Compared to Pacific Swifts in same loose flock: smaller, shorter winged, sharper contrast between black cheeks and white throat. Tail short. A few Pacific Swifts in the flock appeared to be moulting rectrices so also appeared short-tailed, but with longer wings, dull contrast between cheeks and throat. Good views from third story balcony. Mixed flock of Pacific and House Swifts, also White-breasted Woodsallows. Moving east from beach inland.

Appendix V. East Point, 03/04/19 (Table 1 & Figure 1: sighting #5; location #5). Observed by John Rawsthorne. Screenshot taken from <https://ebird.org/checklist/S54507059>

1 House Swift

Small swift, white throat, short notched tail that appeared rounded on edges when flared. No views of rump or upper side. Erratic flight compared to Pacific Swift. Two birds initially seen without binoculars, showing swift body shape but unusually erratic flight pattern. ID of a single bird confirmed a few minutes later with binoculars.

Appendix VI. Jacksonia Court, Nightcliff, 12/04/19 (Table 1 & Figure 1: sighting #7; location #2). Observed by John Rawsthorne. Screenshot taken from <https://ebird.org/checklist/S54843447>

400 Pacific Swift

flying west to east over Nightcliff, at the rate of 5-10 birds/minute from 6.50 to 7.50. Mostly flying directly, but from 7.40 birds were more evidently feeding and flying less directly

2 House Swift

Two individuals identified at 7.40am based on small overall size relative to Pacific Swifts flying with them, short double-rounded/notched tail, white throat and extensive white rump, as well as significantly different flight pattern to Pacific Swifts flying with them. Potentially several other individuals in the period 7.40-7.50am, but definitive views not available.

Appendix VII. Jacksonia Court, Nightcliff, 13/04/19 (Table 1 & Figure 1: sighting #8; location #2). Observed by John Rawsthorne, Magen Pettit, and Clive Garland. Screenshot taken from <https://ebird.org/checklist/S54882536>

600 Pacific Swift

Estimate of birds passing over 90 minutes. Probably greater numbers in flock.

7 House Swift

Birds as previously seen. Between three observers we had clear identification of 7 individuals. These were scattered amongst Pacific Swifts.

Appendix VIII. Jacksonia Court, Nightcliff, 29/04/19 (Table 1 & Figure 1: sighting #9; location #2). Observed by John Rawsthorne and Kim Rawsthorne. Screenshot taken from <https://ebird.org/checklist/S55532933>

14 Pacific Swift

6 House Swift

Flock of swifts consisting of mainly House Swifts (at least 6 HS and about 4 Pacific Swifts) feeding and circling lazily over Nightcliff, in view for 5+ minutes. Identified with excellent and sustained views by two observers of small size compared to close PS, short tail which was rounded on edges when flared, extensive white rump extending onto flanks, different wing shape to nearby PS. (second flock of ~10 birds about 10 minutes later was all Pacific Swifts)

Appendix IX. Jacksonia Court, Nightcliff, 11/05/19 (Table 1 & Figure 1: sighting #10; location #2). Observed by John Rawsthorne. Screenshot taken from <https://ebird.org/checklist/S56107633>

5 Pacific Swift

1 House Swift

Swift with prominent bright white rump, short squarish notched tail. Smaller than nearby Pacific Swifts.

Appendix X. Bauhinia Street, Nightcliff, 12/05/19 (Table 1 & Figure 1: sighting #11; location #6). Observed by Marc Gardner, Ben Hoffman, and Luke Hoffman. Screenshot taken from <https://ebird.org/checklist/S56147956>

12 Pacific Swift

1 House Swift

Seen clearly with its convex tail, slightly smaller size compared to nearby Pacific Swifts. Also appeared darker body colour than Pacific Swifts it was associating with. Tail was clearly shorter, blunter, not as 'forked' and wing shape seemed broader/more blunt than Pacific Swifts. Clear white rump and throat observed. At least one bird, possibly 2. Swifts were spread out in skies around Nightcliff suburb. Seen with Marc Gardner.

Appendix XI. Jacksonia Court, Nightcliff, 13/05/19 (Table 1 & Figure 1: sighting #12; location #2). Observed by John Rawsthorne. Screenshot taken from <https://ebird.org/checklist/S56197669>

2 Pacific Swift

3 House Swift

three seen together feeding over Grevillea Cct Nightcliff for an extended period. Short notched tails, rounded when fanned, prominent bright white rump and smaller size than nearby Pacific Swifts.