

# 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) Joint submissions are fine	Neil Broekhuizen
Your email, phone or address	

Section B: Record details	
Common and scientific names Include subspecies if relevant	South Island Pied Oystercatcher ("SIPO") <i>Haematopus finschi</i>
Site location (with GPS if possible)	Woy Woy Memorial Park, Brick Wharf Road, Woy Woy, NSW. -33.484188,151.3271543
Date(s) and time(s) of record (First and last date of occurrence if known)	28 October 202, 5.00pm. Observed for 15 minutes.
How many individuals were there?	1
What was the distance to the bird(s)?	First observed at approximately 20m from road side of park. I then slowly approached, taking photos, until it flew when I was about 5m away.
Habitat description	Perched on a wall adjoining Brisbane Water S of Pelican Island. The wall was next to a rocky breakwater covered in oysters.
Sighting conditions (e.g. weather, visibility, light conditions)	Clear day, good visibility and light.
How confident are you in the identification (as a %) and why?	Extremely confident (100%). I was driving slowly on Brick Wharf Road looking at any "Pied" type Oystercatchers as there had been a report of a SIPO sighting 6 days earlier (see below). This particular bird was sitting alone on the wall but there were two other "Pied" type Oystercatchers about 10m further along the wall that

	<p>had noticeably longer legs, shorter bills and more elongated necks.</p> <p>As I approached the bird swivelled around so I had good views from all angles, (photos supplied below). It finally flew, displaying mostly white underwing, including all of the secondaries and most of the primaries. It had a wide upper wing bar, extending to secondaries and merging with the tail and rump. I didn't manage to get any flight photos.</p> <p>The bird landed somewhere on Pelican Island – I waited for around 30 mins but it didn't reappear.</p> <p>I had also spent the previous hour or so walking around the Woy Woy foreshore, both scoping and seeing Pied Oystercatchers at close quarters and this bird was clearly different for all the reasons I have outlined above.</p> <p>Final point to note was that this bird was missing its right foot. Presumably due to fishing line tangle although it was in no apparent discomfort so it looked like it was healed.</p>
<p><b>Did you find and/or identify the bird initially? Who else recorded the bird and do they agree with the identification?</b></p>	<p>Andrew Walker first reported a sighting in the vicinity on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. See below. I don't believe anyone else saw the bird despite several people looking for it over the following couple of weeks.</p>
<p><b>What experience have you had with this species?</b></p>	<p>This was the first time I have seen a SIPO, although I have seen many Pied Oystercatchers.</p>
<p><b>Has this species been seen at this location before? When?</b></p>	<p>Andrew Walker first posted a sighting of a suspected SIPO in the Woy Woy area, which was accompanied by distant video and a sound recording. Comments by others were supportive of the identification.</p> <p><a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/718576241555767/permalink/3394427033970661/?_cft_[0]=AZWewBRtBjEmK81SASjsif-kDA-Vd1JGWGkQvUXZ8ilCkETWSFC8ZUp16NjOSrK_pya1rgc78A3FVMonYHPKIRC09m62TarGvPPnoaTUV8ngKcmIAqNdLPBUUB7I3e_I0diXRVs8f7_JrHJas3vreH5t&amp;_tn_=%2CO%2CP-R">https://www.facebook.com/groups/718576241555767/permalink/3394427033970661/?_cft_[0]=AZWewBRtBjEmK81SASjsif-kDA-Vd1JGWGkQvUXZ8ilCkETWSFC8ZUp16NjOSrK_pya1rgc78A3FVMonYHPKIRC09m62TarGvPPnoaTUV8ngKcmIAqNdLPBUUB7I3e_I0diXRVs8f7_JrHJas3vreH5t&amp;_tn_=%2CO%2CP-R</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1557319201151930/permalink/2669482966602209/?_cft_[0]=AZUIkDCDnG8F5XibwNwtkvW-oL1jbOvcfzcmDVxzRA_Ttnu2PUtV18wyn74pi7CVzooEMvq56QtJnAUOs6Ib9cQsrOVJU4hdRhx17jsHEH1umxWgkuqhQVETQnE-hQMY9icnz1qQeGeTeTEj4XjcZ2&amp;_tn_=%2CO%2CP-R">https://www.facebook.com/groups/1557319201151930/permalink/2669482966602209/?_cft_[0]=AZUIkDCDnG8F5XibwNwtkvW-oL1jbOvcfzcmDVxzRA_Ttnu2PUtV18wyn74pi7CVzooEMvq56QtJnAUOs6Ib9cQsrOVJU4hdRhx17jsHEH1umxWgkuqhQVETQnE-hQMY9icnz1qQeGeTeTEj4XjcZ2&amp;_tn_=%2CO%2CP-R</a></p>
<p><b>Have photographs of the bird or discussion of it occurred on the internet? (Please provide the site name, a summary, electronic link, etc.)</b></p>	<p>I posted a report to ebird on 28<sup>th</sup> October <a href="https://ebird.org/checklist/S75512315">https://ebird.org/checklist/S75512315</a></p> <p>I also posted to the Facebook site, Australian Twitchers:  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/718576241555767/permalink/3413312762082088/?_cft_[0]=AZXIR5HFzryHNc6oIee74_grib10XjqzgdYmEwUxM76dWoJwgTSDps-gel0HHJhIj2CYLKg-CZZznM0F9-mZkUr0mHND1e8EIupi4YpFz39Eu-e9y3FL-3sy4pdx177KX-2COeACozSYuD-MsGyCXgg&amp;_tn_=%2CO%2CP-R">https://www.facebook.com/groups/718576241555767/permalink/3413312762082088/?_cft_[0]=AZXIR5HFzryHNc6oIee74_grib10XjqzgdYmEwUxM76dWoJwgTSDps-gel0HHJhIj2CYLKg-CZZznM0F9-mZkUr0mHND1e8EIupi4YpFz39Eu-e9y3FL-3sy4pdx177KX-2COeACozSYuD-MsGyCXgg&amp;_tn_=%2CO%2CP-R</a></p> <p>Other photos attached in Section C</p>
<p><b>Do you permit BARC to display your images etc. electronically (credited with your name)</b></p>	<p>Yes</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.

Three photos below of the SIPO – fourth photo is of one of the proximate Pied Oystercatchers.



NX16204  
GNR  
W.M. MATTHEWS  
2/1. MED. ARTY  
2-A-I-F  
14 6 73

LIEUT.  
W.E. PRIVETT  
56. BATN  
1-A-I-F  
4 4 73

305738  
PTE  
A. GREGSON  
TANK CORPS  
IMP. FORCES  
19 5 75

NX13059  
PTE  
L.B. GRANTHAM  
6. DIV. 2-A-I-F  
26 6 75

NX 502071

NX 18352

NX 163994





Pied Oystercatcher below (photo taken at the same time and approx. 10 m further along the same wall as the SIPO) shows much longer legs, more upright jizz, elongated neck and shorter, straighter bill. The white tips to the primary coverts are also less prominent.



**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	Full description above
Bare parts	
Moult details	
Structure and 'jizz'	
Calls	
Behaviours	
Age, sex and/or taxonomy	

**Section E: Confusion species**

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

As above – Pied Oystercatcher eliminated

**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?	None
Would you like to acknowledge the assistance of others in the identification process or preparation of this submission?	Again, thanks to Andrew Walker for the original sighting and Alan Morris for suggesting that I submit it as it may be a first record for the Central Coast.