

## 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	Hans Wohlmuth  Susan Inglis
Your email, phone or address	

Section B: Record details	
Common and scientific names Include subspecies if relevant	Hudsonian Godwit ( <i>Limosa haemastica</i> )
Site location (with GPS if possible)	Lord Howe Island, NSW:  Old Settlement Beach (-31.51963, 159.05688) – 17/3/21 North Beach (-31.51745, 159.04406) – 20/3/21 and 23/3/21 LHI Airfield (-31.54069, 159.07951) – 22/3/21 and 25/3/21
Date(s) and time(s) of record (First and last date of occurrence if known)	First: Old Settlement Beach 17/3/21 approx. 16:30  Last: LHI Airfield 25/3/21 approx. 09:45
How many individuals were there?	1
What was the distance to the bird(s)?	Down to approx. 20 m
Habitat description	Exposed tidal beaches at low tide, short grass on airfield at high tide.
Sighting conditions (e.g. weather, visibility, light conditions)	Overcast and windy, otherwise excellent.
How confident are you in the identification (as a %) and why?	100%. Photos clearly show diagnostic black underwing coverts, slightly upturned bill, uniform greyish-brown upperparts and short, somewhat (although not very pronounced) bulging cream supercilium.
Did you find and/or identify the bird initially? Who else recorded the bird and do they agree with the identification?	As far as we are aware, we discovered the bird. Initially, on 17/3 it was not seen in flight and was photographed as a Black-tailed Godwit, a species that had been reported on the island 1-2 weeks earlier. On review of the photos, it became clear the bird almost certainly was a Hudsonian Godwit due to its slight but clearly upturned bill. The bird was next encountered on 20/3 when it was seen and photographed in flight, showing its diagnostic underwing pattern. The bird was seen, photographed and reported on eBird and FB by a number of other birders, including Ian Hutton, Dick Jenkin, Jim Smith, Sue Lee and Richard Arnold.

What experience have you had with this species?	None but extensive experience with Bar-tailed and Black-tailed Godwit.
Has this species been seen at this location before? When?	No previous records from Lord Howe Island, according to Ian Hutton and BARC.
Have photographs of the bird or discussion of it occurred on the internet? (Please provide the site name, a summary, electronic link, etc.)	Australian Twitchers Facebook site: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/718576241555767">https://www.facebook.com/groups/718576241555767</a> eBird lists
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.

Photos are provided separately.

### 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	Non-breeding
Bare parts	
Moult details	Primary moult is evident in some of the flight photos.
Structure and 'jizz'	Typical godwit jizz.
Calls	Not heard calling.
Behaviours	Feeding, roosting, flying. In the company of Bar-tailed Godwits and sometimes also Ruddy Turnstones.
Age, sex and/or taxonomy	Likely adult due to uniform greyish-brown upperparts.

### Section E: Confusion species

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

Hudsonian Godwit can be identified from other Godwits by the diagnostic black underwing coverts.

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<b>Section F: References and aids</b>	
<b>Did you use books, journal articles or on-line sites or pages to help you prepare this submission? Which ones?</b>	Menkhorst P et al (2017). The Australian Bird Guide. Chandler R (2009). Shorebirds of North America, Europe and Asia. Hayman P et al (1986). Shorebirds – an identification guide.
<b>Would you like to acknowledge the assistance of others in the identification process or preparation of this submission?</b>	











