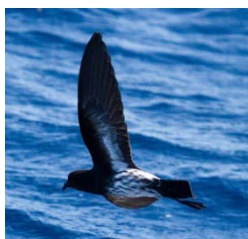


BRISBANE SEABIRD STUDY GROUP
Rare Seabird Forms



(Completed forms to be passed on to BQRAC or BARC, where appropriate).

Name: Gus Dal

Address:

Ph: (H)

(W)

E-mail:

Vessel: 46 ft Badenach monohull MV Grinner II.

Crew: Craig Newton (skipper)

No. of observers present: 5

Contact(s): (full name . Contact details: include address, phone no(s). E-mail, etc.).

- 1). Chris Burwell
- 2). Elliot Leach
- 3). Stuart Pickering
- 4). Paul Walbridge

Date of sighting: 14/3/2021

Time & duration of sighting: 1423 hrs for about 30 seconds

Species name:

Common:
Collared Petrel

Scientific:
Pterodroma brevipes magnificens

No. of birds observed: 1

Location: Britannia Seamount 28 38.24S/155 32.26E.

Be precise & include GPS readings when possible.

Habitat (indicate in appropriate box).

Bay/Inlet	Headland	River Mouth	Ocean Beach	Shelf Waters	Slope Waters	Open Ocean	Other
						*	

Optical and/or other aids used: Swarovski Optik EL 8.5x42

Prior experience with this species: PW, SP and EL have prior experience with this sub-species of Collared Petrel.

Confidence in sighting? (e.g. 90%, 100% etc.): 100%

Received:

BQRAC Case No:

BARC Case No:

Recommendation:

(Office Use Only).

FORM B

Weather Conditions: (including wind speed & direction).

A high over the Tasman Sea combined with a ridge along the Queensland coast brought continued 10-15 knots NE winds to the region, increasing to 20-25 knots over the course the day. Moderate cloud cover and good visibility with maximum air temperature 24° C, barometer 1018 hPa.

Sea Conditions: (including water temp. °C, when possible).

Seas increased to about 1.5 metres on a swell to 2 metres, easing during the afternoon. Sea surface temps. initially 25.9° C in the deeper water increasing to a maximum of 27.5° C on the middle peak.

General Observations: (include behaviour of bird(s), view, distance etc).

The bird was first sighted by GD on the port side of the vessel at approximately 100 metres, heading right to left (~east to west), with most of us just getting fleeting views of the bird but was identified by GD immediately. Luckily CB was outside with his camera at the ready and pulled off a couple of miraculous shots.

Description of Bird(s): (be as detailed as possible).

A relatively small gadfly, comparable in size to other 'cookilaria' including Gould's Petrel (*P. leucoptera*) (observed earlier that day) although unmistakable based on plumage characteristics. Overall, the subject bird appeared relatively dark with underparts almost entirely sooty grey/brown, darkening towards the head forming a 'ghosted' cowl surrounding clean white lores, face and chin/throat area. Underwings were mostly dark due to extremely broad carpal bars (cf. congeners), blackish secondaries and dark grey primaries. Dark areas of the underwing contrasted with light grey forewing coverts, axillaries, greater primary coverts, and greater and median secondary coverts. Upperparts were primarily dark grey with a slightly darker 'M' pattern contrasting with lighter uppertail coverts and mantle.

How was it distinguished from other similar species?:

The only potential confusion species considered is Mottled Petrel (*P. inexpectata*), however, this species is easily ruled out on shape, size, flight style, underwing pattern and facial pattern. All on board have previous field experience with Mottled Petrel.

Other Comments:

There have now been seven sightings of Collared Petrel on trips to these seamounts with this bird being the sixth example of *P. b. 'magnificens'*.

Bibliography:

SEABIRDS an identification guide by Peter Harrison 1985.

PHOTOGRAPHIC HANDBOOK OF THE SEABIRDS OF THE WORLD – JIM ENDICOTT AND DAVID TIPLING.

A new taxon of Collared Petrel *Pterodroma brevipes* from the Banks Islands, Vanuatu by Vincent Bretagnolle & Hadoram Shirihai

The Australian Bird Guide, Peter Menkhorst, Danny Rogers, Rohan Clarke, Jeff Davies, Peter Marsack, Kim Franklin.

Albatrosses, Petrels and Shearwaters of the World, Derek Onley, Paul Scofield.

New distribution records of collared petrel (*Pterodroma brevipes*) in Fiji and development of a rapid assessment monitoring method

MARK O'BRIEN* JEREMY P. BIRD BirdLife International Pacific Secretariat, GPO Box 18332, Suva, Fiji

Plumage Variation, Morphology and Identification of Collared (*Pterodroma brevipes*) and Gould's (*P. leucoptera*) Petrels Dean J. Portelli

Form C



Collared Petrel *Pterodroma brevipes* '*magnificens*', Britannia Seamount, 14/3/2021. C. Burwell.



Collared Petrel *Pterodroma brevipes* '*magnificens*', Britannia Seamount, 14/3/2021. C. Burwell.