



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	Keith F. Betton
Your email, phone or address	

Section B: Record details	
Common and scientific names Include subspecies if relevant	Macaroni Penguin <i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>
Site location (with GPS if possible)	Sandy Bay, Macquarie Island 54° 33' 56" S; 158° 55' 00" E
Date(s) and time(s) of record (First and last date of occurrence if known)	17/11/2018 1500 hrs
How many individuals were there?	1
What was the distance to the bird(s)?	5m
Habitat description	Sandy beach at the north end of Sandy Bay. The bird was ca 15m from the sea with about 100 Royal Penguins <i>Eudyptes schlegeli</i> .
Sighting conditions (e.g. weather, visibility, light conditions)	Sunny, bright, light wind
How confident are you in the identification (as a %) and why?	100%
Did you find and/or identify the bird initially? Who else recorded the bird and do they agree with the identification?	The bird was found by a crew member of the Spirit of Enderby (Heritage Expeditions) and news travelled fast among the passengers. Around 50 people saw the bird, but it seems that despite several Australian birders being on the trip nobody submitted the record to BARC.
What experience have you had with this species?	Just once – several thousand seen (some a close range) at Drygalski Fjord, South Georgia, April 2018
Has this species been seen at this location before? When?	Yes – twice. An adult male was collected on Macquarie Island (exact location unknown to me) in December 1957 by Robert Falla, which is in the Museum of New Zealand in Wellington as specimen DM 8963. An individual was noted at Sandy Bay in January 2014 by Graham Barwell and Samuel Blanc.
Have photographs of the bird or discussion	Not seen other photos on the internet, although plenty of photos were

of it occurred on the internet? (Please provide the site name, a summary, electronic link, etc.)	taken on the day.
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.



Image 1: Head – right side



Image 2: Head - front on



Image 3: Head – left side

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.

<p>Plumage</p>	<p>Head and throat black, leading to a clear cut off to a white breast and belly (in contrast, Royal Penguin has white face and neck continuing to white breast and belly). Thin gold crest plumes with a few black ones extending from the middle of the forehead back across the crown. Nape and back black. Details of flippers were not noted.</p>
<p>Bare parts</p>	<p>Dark orange bill brightest on the upper mandible. The bill was clearly shorter than that of the nearest Royal Penguin (see image 3) with a more bulbous tip. A pale pink triangular patch of bare skin extended from the gape to just below the eye. The iris was dark red (compared to reddish-brown on the Royal Penguin. Details of legs and feet were not noted.</p>

Moult details	Did not appear to be moulting
Structure and 'jizz'	Slightly smaller (5-10%) than the Royal Penguins it was with
Calls	None heard
Behaviours	Occasionally preened. No interaction with the nearby Royal Penguins in my time of observation (ca 15 minutes)
Age, sex and/or taxonomy	Adult

Section E: Confusion species

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

Most likely confusion species is Royal Penguin, and fortunately it was with these. The bird was 5-10% smaller than the Royal Penguins. It had a clear black head and chin, and did not interact with the Royal Penguins, many of which were interacting with each other.

I am familiar with all other "crested" penguin species.

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?	<p>Marchant, S., and P.J. Higgins, co-ordinators (1990). Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds. Vol. 1: Ratites to Ducks. Melbourne: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Cornell Birds of the World https://birdsoftheworld.org/bow/species/macpen1/cur/introduction</p>
Would you like to acknowledge the assistance of others in the identification process or preparation of this submission?	The bird was found and identified by the staff of Heritage Expeditions