



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	PAULA BOWLER, ADRIAN WALSH

Section B: Record details	
Common and scientific names Include subspecies if relevant	NORDMANN'S GREENSHANK, TRINGA GUTTIFER
Site location (with GPS if possible)	CAIRNS ESPLANADE, IN FRONT OF MUDDY'S CAFÉ.
Date(s) and time(s) of record (First and last date of occurrence if known)	THURSDAY 16 TH DECEMBER, 2021, 11.30AM. BIRD STILL PRESENT ON CAIRNS ESPLANADE, LAST EBIRD POSTED SIGHTING ON 16 TH APRIL 2022. HAS NOT BEEN SEEN SINCE (AS OF 5 TH MAY 2022).
How many individuals were there?	ONE
What was the distance to the bird(s)?	~50M
Habitat description	TIDAL MUDFLATS
Sighting conditions (e.g. weather, visibility,	CLEAR SKIES, EXCELLENT VISIBILITY, SUNNY

light conditions)	
How confident are you in the identification (as a %) and why?	100% CONFIDENT. PHOTOGRAPHS SHARED TO THE BIRDING COMMUNITY AND CONFIRMED BY ANDY ANDERSEN, ADRIAN WALSH (FOR THE 16 TH DECEMBER 2021 OBSERVATION)
Did you find and/or identify the bird initially? Who else recorded the bird and do they agree with the identification?	PAULA BOWLER FOUND AND TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED ON 16 TH DECEMBER, BUT DID NOT INITIALLY COMMUNICATE TO BIRDING COMMUNITY. PAULA FOUND NORDMANN'S AGAIN ON 18 TH DECEMBER, THEN POSTED THE SIGHTING TO EBIRD. ADRIAN WALSH WENT TO ESPLANADE ON MORNING OF 19 TH DECEMBER 2021 AND CONFIRMED THE RETURN OF THE NORDMANN'S GREENSHANK.
What experience have you had with this species?	PAULA SAW THE NORDMANN'S GREENSHANK DURING THE 2020/2021 SEASON ON CAIRNS ESPLANADE. ADRIAN WALSH OBSERVED THE NORDMANN'S 76 TIMES DURING THE 2020/2021 SEASON.
Has this species been seen at this location before? When?	YES. FROM 25 TH DECEMBER 2020 TO 9 TH MAY 2021.
Have photographs of the bird or discussion of it occurred on the internet? (Please provide the site name, a summary, electronic link, etc.)	YES. PAULA POSTED HER INITIAL SIGHTING ON EBIRD WITH PHOTOGRAPHS (https://ebird.org/australia/checklist/S99020513). THIS WAS DISCUSSED ON THE AUSTRALIAN TWITCHER'S FACEBOOK GROUP PAGE, BUT THAT INITIAL DISCUSSION HAS DISAPPEARED. ADRIAN WALSH CREATED ANOTHER DISCUSSION THERE IN JANUARY (https://www.facebook.com/groups/718576241555767/search/?q=nordmann%27s). AFTER THE RE-FINDING ON 19 TH DECEMBER 2021, ADRIAN WALSH POSTED TO BIRDLIFE NORTH QUEENSLAND FACEBOOK PAGE (https://www.facebook.com/groups/362094987191145/permalink/4704835582917042) AND EBIRD (https://ebird.org/checklist/S99060292). THERE ARE 175 SEPARATE EBIRD SIGHTINGS LOGGED IN THE 2021/2022 SUMMER AS OF 16/4/2022.(https://ebird.org/map/norgrel?neg=true&env.minX=&env.minY=&env.maxX=&env.maxY=&zh=false&gp=false&ev=Z&mr=1-12&bmo=1&emo=12&yr=all&byr=1900&eyr=2022)
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.

SEE PHOTOGRAPHS AT THE END OF THIS REPORT.

VIDEO FROM 5TH FEBRUARY 2022: <https://youtu.be/nmAPS3N81d8> AND https://youtu.be/bugF8FqSi_8 (ADRIAN WALSH)

VIDEO FROM 16TH JANUARY 2022: <https://youtu.be/mW6KOrP9esE> (ADRIAN WALSH)

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 PLUMAGE. WHITE BELLY AND BREAST. WHITE CHIN. GREYISH MILDLY STREAKED HEAD (NOT AS DISTINCTLY STREAKED AS COMMON GREENSHANK), WITH WINGS FOLDED - GREY COVERTS AND SECONDARIES, PRIMARIES DARKER
Bare parts	YELLOW LEGS, BICOLOURED BILL: YELLOWISH BASE, SLATY-GREY DISTALLY
Moult details	THE NORDMANN'S WAS IN ACTIVE BODY MOULT, PRESUMED TO BE SECOND PREBASIC, WHEN REDISCOVERED ON 16 DECEMBER 2021. WORN NON-BREEDING PLUMAGE WAS BEING REPLACED BY A FRESHER NON-BREEDING PLUMAGE. BODY MOULT WAS MORE ADVANCED THAN IT HAD BEEN IN DECEMBER 2020 - JANUARY 2021, AND BY 16 JANUARY 2022 MOST OF THE BODY PLUMAGE WAS FRESH; THE APPEARANCE OF THE BIRD ON 5 FEBRUARY 2022 WAS TYPICAL OF ITS APPEARANCE BETWEEN 16 JANUARY AND 19 FEBRUARY 2022. AT THE START OF MARCH 2022, PHOTOS POSTED TO EBIRD SHOWED SLIGHTLY LARGER DARK FLECKS ON THE SIDES OF THE BREAST THAN HAD BEEN SEEN PREVIOUSLY, PERHAPS AN ATTRIBUTE OF SECOND BASIC PLUMAGE. ON 16TH MARCH THE FIRST CLEAR EVIDENCE OF ACTIVE PRE-ALTERNATE MOULT WAS PHOTOGRAPHED, INCLUDING A FEW LARGE BLACK FLECKS ON THE SIDES OF THE BREAST, AND A COUPLE OF SCAPULARS WITH DARK GREY CENTRES. UPPERPARTS FEATHERS CONTINUED TO BE REPLACED THROUGH EARLY APRIL; BY 16 APRIL ABOUT HALF THE SCAPULARS HAD BEEN REPLACED IN PRE-ALTERNATE MOULT, WHILE RETAINED BASIC FEATHERS WERE BEGINNING TO FADE AND SHOW INDICATIONS OF WEAR. SEE PHOTOGRAPHS AT THE END OF THIS REPORT FROM 5 TH

	FEBRUARY AND 16 TH APRIL 2022.
Structure and 'jizz'	SLIGHTLY SMALLER, SHORTER THAN A COMMON GREENSHANK, A BIT STOCKIER, BODY SIMILAR SIZE TO A GREAT KNOT.
Calls	CALL NOT HEARD ON 16 TH OR 19 TH DECEMBER. HAVE HEARD SINGLE PIPING NOTE OF LESS THAN ONE SECOND IN LENGTH SEVERAL TIMES IN JANUARY 2022, NORMALLY ONLY HEARD SHORTLY BEFORE IT FLIES TO ROOST AT HIGH TIDE.
Behaviours	CLASSIC FORAGING BEHAVIOUR OBSERVED MULTIPLE TIMES IN 2021 AND 2022 IS THE TEREK-LIKE BURST SPEED FORAGING, WHERE THE NORDMANN'S RUNS VERY QUICKLY IN A LOW CENTRE OF GRAVITY POSITION, HEAD BOBBING BACK AND FORTH, ZIG-ZAGGING ON THE MUDFLAT AND DIVING INTO A CRAB HOLE TO EXTRACT PREY. COMMONLY CATCHES SENTINEL CRABS, REMOVES LEGS AND DEVOURS WHOLE CARAPACE. ALSO OBSERVED ENGAGING IN TIDELINE FORAGING AND DETRITUS FORAGING ON THE MUDFLAT, WHERE IT MOVES AT A SLOWER PACE, SWEEPING HEAD BACK IN FORTH, CATCHING SMALL PREY. CAN STAND STILL FOR A COUPLE OF MINUTES TO AS LONG AS 10 MINUTES AND POUNCE ON PREY (USUALLY A CRAB). COMMONLY OBSERVED WITH GREAT KNOTS, BAR-TAILED GODWITS AND SMALLER NUMBERS OF TEREK SANDPIPERS, GREY-TAILED TATTLERS, CURLEW SANDPIPERS. HAS BEEN NOTED TO ENGAGE IN KLEPTOPARASITIC BEHAVIOUR THIS SEASON SEVERAL TIMES, STEALING FOOD FROM BAR-TAILED GODWITS.
Age, sex and/or taxonomy	SEX UNKNOWN. 16 TH DECEMBER THOUGHT TO BE 2CY (2 ND CALENDAR YEAR) BIRD, NOW 3CY BIRD WITH BREEDING PLUMAGE (ALTERNATE) APPEARING IN APRIL 2022.

Section E: Confusion species

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

IN TERMS OF SPECIES THAT I REGULARLY SEE ON THE CAIRNS MUDFLATS, COULD POSSIBLY BE ONLY CONFUSED WITH COMMON GREENSHANK IF THE VIEWS AREN'T QUITE CLEAR. COMMON GREENSHANK THOUGH HAS A FINER BILL WHICH IS NOT AS CLEARLY BICOLOURED IN NON-BR. COMMON GREENSHANK HAS LARGER WHITE EYE RING. THE SLIGHT UPTURNING OF THE BILL ALMOST IDENTICAL TO COMMON GREENSHANK AND BILL APPEARED A VERY SIMILAR LENGTH, BUT NOTICEABLY THICKER IN THE NORDMANN'S. POSSIBLE CONFUSION WITH A TEREK'S SANDPIPER WHEN SEEN FEEDING, AS THEIR BURST-SPEED TECHNIQUE IS SIMILAR, HOWEVER THE TEREK IS SMALLER AND DAINTIER WITH ORANGE LEGS. EVEN THOUGH TEREK'S BILL IS UPTURNED, IT IS MUCH FINER. I ELIMINATED ALL THE SIMILARITIES WITH THE COMMON GREENSHANK AND MANAGED TO ID SEVERAL NORDMANN'S DIAGNOSTICS – THICKER BILL, CLEARLY BICOLOURED BILL, SHORTER LEGS THAN COMMON GREENSHANK. MORE HEAVY-SET THAN COMMON GREENSHANK. WHITE-EYE RING SMALLER. HAS SUPERFICIAL SIMILARITIES WITH GREY-TAILED TATTLER – YELLOW LEGS, GREYISH PLUMAGE, WHITE UNDERPARTS, BUT GTT IS SMALLER, AND BILL IS NOT BICOLOURED AND STRAIGHTER, AND HEAD PATTERN WITH DISTINCT LORE/SUPERCILIUM IS DIFFERENT TO NORDMANN'S.

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?	USED PREVIOUS NORDMANN'S GREENSHANK BARC SUBMISSION 1171 FROM JANUARY 2021.
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Would you like to acknowledge the assistance of others in the identification process or preparation of this submission?

IDENTIFICATION BASED ON PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS BIRD OVER THE 4 MONTHS OF THE PREVIOUS AUSTRAL SUMMER. THANKS TO DANNY ROGERS FOR MORE DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE MOULT OVER TIME.

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY PAULA BOWLER ON 16TH DECEMBER 2021:





PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY ADRIAN WALSH ON 19TH DECEMBER
2021:





ADRIAN WALSH ©2021



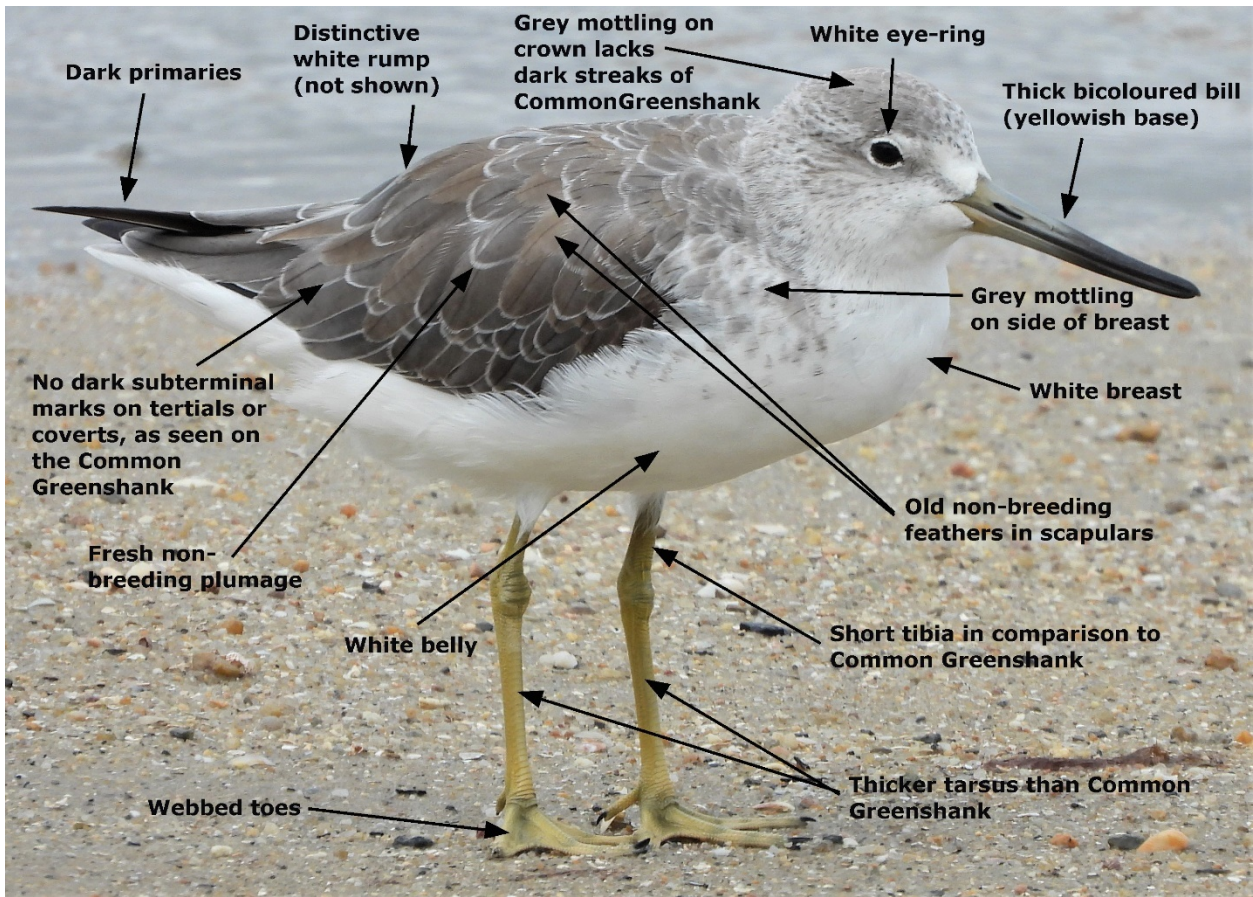


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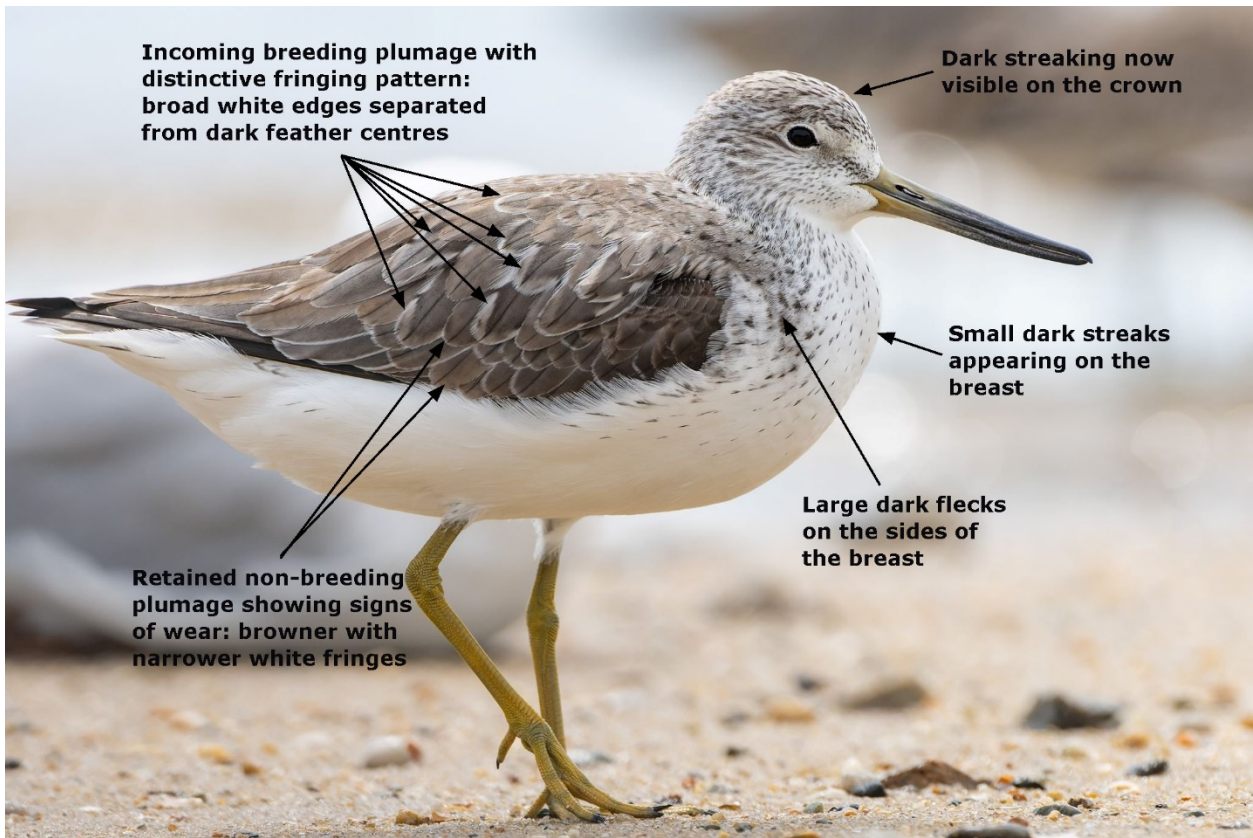




ADRIAN WALSH ©2021



5TH FEBRUARY 2022, NORDMANN'S GREENSHANK, CAIRNS ESPLANADE. PHOTO: ADRIAN WALSH



16TH APRIL 2022, NORDMANN'S GREENSHANK, CAIRNS ESPLANADE. PHOTO: JUN MATSUI.