

HARLEQUIN DUCK

Histrionicus histrionicus

non-breeding visitor, vagrant

monotypic

Harlequin Ducks breed on mountain streams and rivers of Kamchatka, Kuril Is, Alaska, nw. N America, and in ne. Canada, Greenland and Iceland, withdrawing S in winter to coastal shorelines of Japan, California, and the mid-Atlantic states (Dement'ev and Gladkov 1952, Cramp and Simmons 1977, AOU 1998). It is a vagrant to the n. Mexico and the *Northwestern Hawaiian Islands*, where there are five records involving six individuals. The earliest record was of a first-spring female collected on *Laysan* 17 Apr 1906 (Bailey 1956; BPBM 4538; [HRBP](#) 5652-5654 of specimen). The remaining five individuals were recorded on *Midway*: one was observed during April 1976 including on Eastern I 9 Apr (*E* 38:7), a first-fall male observed on Sand I 29 Nov 1982 was found dead 30 Nov (BPBM 161201; [HRBP](#) 5652-5654 of specimen), a first-fall female was observed on Sand I 17-29 Nov 1999 was found dead on the latter date (BPBM 184293; [HRBP](#) 5652-5654 of specimen; *AB* 54:108), and two were observed on Sand I in Dec 2006 ([HRBP](#) 5415 published *NAB* 61:163). The 1999 bird was erroneously attributed to Sand I, O'ahu, by Engilis et al. (2004). We follow Pyle (2008) in considering this species monotypic; specimens from the Hawaiian Islands may have been assigned to a synonymized Pacific N American subspecies, "*H.h. pacificus*".

[Acronyms and Abbreviations](#)

[Literature cited](#)

Citation: Pyle, R.L., and P. Pyle. 2009. The Birds of the Hawaiian Islands: Occurrence, History, Distribution, and Status. B.P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI, U.S.A. Version 1 (31 December 2009) <http://hbs.bishopmuseum.org/birds/rlp-monograph/>