

## BLACK-WINGED PETREL

*Pterodroma nigripennis*

non-breeding visitor, regular

monotypic

Black-winged Petrels breed on Kermadec Island and other islands around and north of New Zealand in Dec-Apr, many dispersing to the subtropical and temperate N Pacific (Harrison 1983, Pitman 1986, Marchant and Higgins 1990, Roberson and Bailey 1991). As recently as the late 1960s they were considered conspecific with Bonin Petrel (King 1967). Although the AOU (1998) lists this species as "casual" in Hawaiian waters, they are one of the more common visiting *Pterodroma*, with records year-round but with a peak in May-Dec. There is also a specimen from Wake Atoll (Rauzon et al. 2008).

*At sea*, a Black-winged Petrel found on a ship, 110 km W of Hawai'i I 12 Nov 1965 and brought alive to an evening meeting of the Hawaii Audubon Society 15 Nov 1965 (*E* 26:84, 91) constituted the first record for Hawaiian Island waters. According to King's (1970) surveys in Mar 1964-Jun 1965, Black-winged Petrels migrate into waters south and east of the Southeastern Islands in May and are found commonly in Jun-Nov (peaking in October), but are absent to scarce in Dec-Apr, with only one individual recorded during this period (97 km east of Hawai'i I 7 Dec 1964). Rowlett (2002) reported Black-winged Petrels virtually every day from W of Kure E to Maui 14 Aug through 20 Nov 2002, with daily counts primarily of < 20 but occasionally up to 65. Gould (1983) recorded them in Hawaiian waters in early Nov 1976, and other researchers have reported Black-winged Petrels off almost all of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands in Apr-Nov of 1991-2001 (e.g., [HRBP](#) 5539-5542), including a high count of 41 observed near Nihoa 6-7 Nov 1996, and one predated by a [Peregrine Falcon](#) 213 km NE of Pearl and Hermes 4 Oct 1991 ([HRBP](#) 0956); there is yet to be a record from any of the Northwestern Island groups proper. Pitman (1986) and Spear *et al.* (1999) also found Black-winged Petrels to be numerous off the Southeastern Islands year-round, the high count being 40 recorded by Spear et al. 35-50 mi SW of Maui and Kaho'olawe 7 Oct 1987 ([HRBP](#) 0627).

In the *Southeastern Hawaiian Islands*, three and five were seen during single-day trips to Lehua Islet off *Ni'ihau* 2 Aug 2006 and 17 Apr 2007, respectively. Up to 11 were seen E of *Kaua'i* 19-27 Oct 2005, and one was found stranded at an undisclosed location on Kaua'i 11 Nov 2005. A petrel found grounded at Kilauea Pt., Kaua'i, 20 Sep 1974 ([HRBP](#) 5705 published *E* 41:68; Byrd and Zeillemaker 1981; *E* 35:121), identified as a Bonin Petrel, was perhaps more likely a Black-winged Petrel. One found injured near Makapu'u Beach, *O'ahu*, was taken to the SLP seabird rehabilitation facility 7 Dec 1996 and photographed ([HRBP](#) 1107-1111) but died 9 Dec, and others were turned in to SLP from unknown localities on O'ahu 7 June 2005 and 15 Oct 2007 ([HRBP](#) 5377), the latter bird cleaned of oil and released. One that came aboard ship outside Kahului Harbor, *Maui* 10 Oct 1990 ([HRBP](#) 0916-0920) was later released, another individual with a missing eye was picked up in Lahaina 4 Sep 1992, photographed ([HRBP](#) 1001-1009), and released, and one was found and released in w. Maui 25 Oct 2005. The only specimens for the Hawaiian Islands were of birds found dead on Maui, at Ka'anapali 24 Oct 2005 (BPBM 184993; [HRBP](#) 5668 of specimen; possibly the same bird found on Maui the day before) and at Haewa Point 23 Nov 2005 (BPBM 185263, carcass). A number of Black-winged Petrels were also recorded during single-day boat trips from

Honolulu and Kona, *Hawai'i I*, during Aug-Dec of 1989-2009 (e.g., [HRBP](#) 5009-5012, 5124-5126 published *NAB* 59:192, 5216-5217, 5379-5381, 5776-5777).

### [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/>