

## WHITE-NECKED PETREL

*Pterodroma cervicallis*

Juan Fernandez Petrel (<1991)

monotypic

### **non-breeding visitor, occasional**

White-necked Petrels breed in the Kermadec Islands north of New Zealand, probably in the northern winter and spring (Harrison 1983) and, when not breeding, disperse northward to the central w. Pacific including Hawaiian waters (King 1967, Tanaka and Inaba 1981, Pitman 1986, Marchant and Higgins 1990). White-necked Petrel was treated as a subspecies of [Juan Fernandez Petrel](#) prior to 1991; some reports of "Juan Fernandez Petrel" from Hawaiian waters prior to 1991 could pertain to either species.

*At sea*, single White-necked Petrels photographed near Pearl and Hermes ([HRBP](#) 0436) and near French Frigate ([HRBP](#) 0479) in Nov 1984 were the first reports from the Hawaiian Islands and the AOU area (Pyle and Eilerts 1986, AOU 1991, Pyle 1992). Subsequently, Rowlett (2002) recorded 119 White-necked Petrels during 13 days of observing 275-370 km south of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands during early November 2002. By contrast they found only 5 in 45 days of observing north and east of these islands 25 Aug-21 Oct. Experienced observers have also recorded at least 14 White-necked Petrels from Kure to Nihoa during cruises in November 1989, 1996 (Bailey 1996), and 1997. In Southeastern Hawaiian Island waters, 11 were observed by Rowlett during 35 days of observing in Aug-Nov 2002, including 5 observed 275-370 km NE of Maui 28 Nov. Spear et al. (1999) reported 23 White-necked Petrels during 3 cruises in Jun 1988 and 1989, all of them 160-320 km (100-200 nmi) S of Hawai'i I. and most beyond 250 km.

Additional White-necked Petrel sightings have been reported on one-day trips from the Kaua'i Channel, *Kaua'i*, 5 Nov 1989 and 11 Nov 2003, and off Kailua Kona, *Hawai'i I* 19 Jan 1989 (4 birds), 6 May 1990, 6 Oct 2004 ([HRBP](#) 5180-5181 published *NAB* 59:171), 15 Dec 2008 (2 birds; [HRBP](#) 5519-5523), 20-30 Oct 2009 (3 birds), and 11-20 Dec 2009 (ca. 11 birds; e.g., [HRBP](#) 5738-5739, 5804-5807).

A petrel identified as a White-necked was picked up at Kalihi, O'ahu 16 Nov 1996, turned into Sea Life Park for rehabilitation, and released on 18 Nov, but this identification was never substantiated. Likewise, one reported stranded on Laysan 6 May 2009 is unsubstantiated.

### [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/>