

BLACK-WINGED STILT

Himantopus himantopus

non-breeding visitor, vagrant

monotypic

This species (sometimes considered conspecific with [Black-necked Stilt](#), which see) breeds across Eurasia and Africa, with northern populations withdrawing southward for winter (Dement'ev and Gladkov 1951c, Cramp and Simmons 1983, AOU 1998). Records in the Pacific, from Micronesia E to Yap and in the Australia and New Zealand region, have increased in recent years (Marchant and Higgins 1993, Wiles et al. 2004, Wiles 2005). There are two records for Alaska (24 May-2 Jun 1983 and 15 May 2003; AOU 1985, 1998; *AB* 57:389-390, 431), and two for the *Northwestern Hawaiian Islands*. The first of these was of a stilt present on *Midway* 2-3 May 1992, which was assumed to be a [Hawaiian Stilt](#) until photographs ([HRBP](#) 5575-5576) were critically examined in 2009. Another individual was photographed over ten years later on Green I, *Kure* 20-30 May 2002 ([HRBP](#) 1364-1366). Leucistic (or "Pied") Hawaiian Stilts (e.g., [HRBP](#) 5020-5021) are occasionally encountered that can resemble Black-winged or other species of stilt. Bill length/leg length ratio of about 0.30 for the Midway and Kure individuals, as determined from photographs, matches that of Black-winged Stilt but is too short for Hawaiian Stilt (*cf.* Hayman et al. 1986).

[Acronyms and Abbreviations](#)

[Literature cited](#)

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