

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE

Phalaropus lobatus

Other: Northern Phalarope (<1983)

monotypic

non-breeding visitor, vagrant

Red-necked Phalaropes breed in Holarctic regions and winter in tropical and southern coastal regions around the world (Dement'ev and Gladkov 1951c, Cramp and Simmons 1983, Higgins and Davies 1996, AOU 1998). They migrate primarily just off continental coastlines and are thus rare in the central Pacific; e.g., the first record for Micronesia occurred in 1999 (Wiles et al. 2000). In the Hawaiian Islands they are rare vagrants and winter visitors. Because of the difficulty in separating Red-necked and [Red](#) phalaropes, especially at sea, and the fact that [Red Phalarope](#) is much more regular in Hawaii, we have included only records of Red-necked Phalarope substantiated by specimen, photograph, and/or detailed written description.

Twelve of 14 documented Red-necked Phalaropes in the *Northwestern Hawaiian Islands* have occurred on *Laysan*. The central lagoon there, perhaps in particular the large brine fly population, appears to attract the species. Eight of these records have occurred during Nov-Mar, indicating that individuals reaching Laysan are inclined to winter there. These include two "very fat" birds collected 7 Mar 1965 and two more observed 13 Dec 1967 (Clapp and Woodward 1968, Ely and Clapp 1973; USNM 494118-9). The remaining ten records from Laysan are from 1986 to 2004, the earliest fall arrival occurring 11 Jul-4 Aug 1986 ([HRBP](#) 0491-0495) and the latest to depart being a bird present 4 Mar-26 Apr 1991 ([HRBP](#) 0961). Reports of 7 phalaropes identified as Red-necked on Laysan 1 Apr-30 May 2009 as well as two birds flying along a beach at French Frigate 10 Nov 1991 are unsubstantiated. The only two substantiated records from the *Southeastern Hawaiian Islands* are provided by a specimen collected by the Knudsens (reportedly one of a pair) in the Mana region of w. *Kaua'i* during the winter of 1892-1893 (Henshaw 1902a, Munro 1944; BPBM 673), and a well-described and photographed individual at Waipi'o, *O'ahu* 27 Feb-17 Mar 1985 ([HRBP](#) 0652-0657). At least eight other unsubstantiated records exist from the Southeastern Hawaiian Islands (e.g., Northwood 1940; *E* 1[2]:2; 1[3]:5; 25:49; 31:108; 38:58; 39:63) that could be correct but lack sufficient documentation to separate them from [Red Phalaropes](#) in basic plumage.

[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/>