

ANCIENT MURRELET

Synthliboramphus antiquus

non-breeding visitor, vagrant

monotypic

The Ancient Murrelet breeds on rocky seacoasts around the Pacific rim from n. through coastal British Columbia, and winters primarily in the N Pacific S to Taiwan, the Volcano and Ryukyu Is, and s. California (Dement'ev and Gladkov 1951a, AOU 1998, Gaston and Jones 1998). The species has occurred once in the Hawaiian Islands but is otherwise unknown in the c. Pacific Ocean. A first-year male found alive on Ko'olina beach in west **O'ahu** 27 Nov 2003 was turned into the SLP rehabilitation facility where it died the following day (BPBM 184589; [HRBP](#) 5358 of specimen). Very strong NNE winds over a 3000 km fetch NE of Hawaii 20-23 Nov 2003 may have helped transport this bird (along with a [Surf Scoter](#)) toward the Hawaiian Islands (*NAB* 58:162). We consider this species monotypic, following Pyle (2008).

[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/>