hypothetical, unassisted occurrence questionable

A specimen of Cassin Auklet (BPBM 152337, HRBP 5387-5388) was received at Bishop Museum 17 May 1977 from the Honolulu Zoo with no information about the bird's origin, whether it reached Hawaii with or without human assistance, or its period of stay at the Zoo (Clapp 1986). Clapp concluded that this bird likely washed ashore on a beach, and it was considered a vagrant to Hawaii by Pyle (1988-2002) and the AOU (1998). The wings and tail are heavily abraded (HRBP 5387-5388), however, indicating captive status or shipboard entrapment, and we consider it too unlikely that this bird reached Hawaiian waters naturally without human restraint to include it on the Primary Checklist. Cassin Auklets inhabit Pacific coastal waters of N America from the e. Aleutian Is to Baja California withdrawing in winter; there are no other reports from the Pacific basin (AOU 1998, Gaston and Jones 1998).

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/