

Whiskered Tern

Chlidonias hybrida

hypothetical, unsubstantiated

The Whiskered Tern breeds locally throughout the Old World, from s. Europe and Africa through s. Russia and Australia (Cramp and Simmons 1985, Higgins and Davies 1996). Vagrants have been recorded in e. N America and w. Micronesia (Clapp & Laybourne 1983, AOU 1998, Wiles 2005) where they appear to be increasing (Wiles et al. 2000). A first-fall *Chlidonias* tern at Aimakapa Pond 15 Sep-10 Nov 1995 was felt to be either a Whiskered or a White-winged (*C. leucopterus*) tern (AB 50:120), and a tern present at Kona STP 31 Mar-5 May 2000 was first considered a Whiskered Tern but may have been a dishevelled first-spring [Common Tern](#) later videotaped there (AB 54:331; [HRBP](#) 1381, 5967-5968). Because of the difficulty in separating Whiskered Tern from other *Chlidonias* and first-year *Sterna* terns (Clapp and Laybourne 1983), we consider the species hypothetical in the Hawaiian Islands without more robust evidence. It was included as a vagrant by Pyle (1997-2002) but not mentioned for Hawaii by the AOU (1997, 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/>