

Silver Gull

Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae

hypothetical, unsubstantiated

Silver Gulls (also known as Red-billed Gulls) breed throughout Australia and New Zealand and show variable movement patterns in this area (Higgins and Davies 1996) but have not been recorded naturally in the Northern Hemisphere (AOU 1998). To date extralimital records extend only as far as 1280 km away from breeding colonies (Carrick et al. 1957, Higgins and Davies 1996); old reports from the Society and Marquesas Is are questionable (King 1967). A bird present on Midway 3-7 Nov 1995 was tentatively identified as this species (*cf.* Pyle 1997). Although the description favors Silver Gull (including the presence of a ringed mark on the head) there is a possibility that the more-likely [Black-headed Gull](#) may have been involved, and it was never included to the Hawaii checklist (*cf.* Pyle 1997-2002).

In 1924 several Silver Gulls escaped from a cage at the Honolulu Zoo and were seen for several months over Honolulu Harbor (Caum 1933; Bryan 1937b; Berger 1972, 1981). Others were released unsuccessfully on O'ahu in 1958 (Bryan 1958), apparently the source for listing in Hawaii by Peterson (1961). Probable escapes have also been recorded in New York in 1947 and New Jersey in 1996 (AOU 2000).

[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/>