

AMERICAN PIPIT

Anthus rubescens

Other: Water Pipit (<1992), Buff-bellied Pipit

A.r. japonicus

non-breeding visitor, vagrant

The American Pipit is primarily a Nearctic species, breeding near or above tree line in Alaska, Canada, and at higher elevations of the larger mountain ranges to the S (AOU 1998). It formerly was considered conspecific with the Rock Pipit (*A. spinoletta*) of Europe, the merged species known as "Water Pipit" (AOU 1983, Cramp and Simmons 1988) until split by the AOU (1989). Five subspecies of American Pipit are recognized (P. Pyle 1997); the nominate subspecies has been recorded as a vagrant to Clipperton I (Howell et al. 1993) and Europe and one subspecies, *A.r. japonicus*, occurs in Asia, breeding in the Kurile Is and Siberia E to the Taimyr Peninsula, wintering to n. India, e. China, Japan, and Southeast Asia (Dement'ev and Gladkov 1954a, Ali and Ripley 1998), and with vagrants recorded along the W coast of N America (CBRC 2007:360). The only record of American Pipit in the Hawaiian Islands is of a single first-cycle female of the subspecies *japonicus*, collected in the *Northwestern Hawaiian Islands*, on **Kure** 25 Oct 1963 (Clapp and Woodward 1968, Woodward 1972; USNM 493506; [HRBP](#) 5353-5355, 5484 of specimen). It was running along the beach and was very fat when collected.

[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/rfp-monograph/>