

STEJNEGER'S PETREL

Pterodroma longirostris

non-breeding visitor, occasional

monotypic

Stejneger's Petrels breed in the Juan Fernandez Is. off Chile during Nov-May and disperse to the eastern N. Pacific, ranging W to the Hawaiian Islands and Japan (King 1967, Harrison 1983, Bartle et al. 1993), and rarely to the North American coast (Roberson and Bailey 1991, AOU 1998, CBRC 2007, Howell 2012). They have occurred in Hawaiian waters primarily in Sep-Nov, presumably during southbound migration, with four additional records in May-Jun, presumably of northbound migrants.

In the *Southeastern Hawaiian Islands*, George Munro found the head and wing of a petrel on *Lana'i* in 1914 which he described under [Bonin Petrel](#) as "a remnant of one, enough to identify the species" (Munro 1944; *E* 4:51). Later, the specimen (BPBM 7045) was determined by Clapp (1984) to be a Stejneger's Petrel, forming the basis for addition to the AOU Check-list (AOU 1989). Off *O'ahu*, Stejneger's Petrels were photographed during one-day trips from shore 20 Sep 2005 ([HRBP](#) 5241 published *NAB* 60:11) and 22 Sep 2010 ([HRBP](#) 6172-6175); the plumage of the latter suggested the possibility of [Pycroft's Petrel](#) but identification experts concluded that it better fit Stejneger's Petrel. One found at an unidentified location on O'ahu in early Oct 2005 was turned into the SLP rehabilitation facility and released ([HRBP](#) 5242-5244, published *NAB* 60:159). Another landed on a cruise ship 29 Sep 2003 within 92 km off Kahalui, Maui ([SOS data](#)), photographed, ([HRBP](#) 5037-5042, published *NAB* 58:163, 176), and released the following day. Off Kona, *Hawai'i I*, additional Stejneger's's Petrels were photographed (e.g., by [CRC](#) observers) 13 May 2008 ([HRBP](#) 5500-5502 published *NAB* 62:495), 11 May 2013 (6 km off Honaunau; [HRBP](#) 6179), 6 Nov 2015 ([HRBP](#) 6183), and 8 Nov 2015 ([HRBP](#) 6184).

Most reports of Stejneger's Petrels occur from research vessels *at sea*. In 336 days of surveys in 2002 and 2010, [HICEAS](#) observers recorded 63 Stejneger's Petrels, 4 in Northwestern Hawaiian Island waters (off Gardner Pinnacles, Laysan, and Lisianski) during 168 days of surveying 11 Sep-6 Oct, and 55 in Southeastern Hawaiian Island waters during 168 days, primarily during 4 Aug-10 Oct, with a single late record ESE of Hawai'i I 23 Nov 2002 (Rowlett 2002; [HICEAS data](#); [HRBP](#) 6176-6178, 6196). Three were together S of Moloka'i 5 Oct 2002 and 16 flying SSE during a 40 minute period on the afternoon of 28 Sep 2002, 83 km NE of Kaua'i, suggests that this species migrates in aggregations. The distribution of these records, resulting from similar effort in both Northwestern and Southeastern Hawaiian Island waters, suggests that fall migration of Stejneger's Petrels occurs through the eastern portion of Hawaiian waters. Additionally, one was described 28 km S of Pearl & Hermes 15 Jun 1991 and Spear et al. (1999) reported 7 Stejneger's Petrels 16 Jun 1986 (1), 16-30 Oct 1985 (5), and 5 Nov 1984 (1), all between 75 and 370 km S and SE of Hawai'i I.

[Acronyms and Abbreviations](#)

[Literature cited](#)

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