Wandering Albatross

hypothetical, erroneous report

A “strange” albatross at Midway in 1938-39 was reported by G. C. Munro (from a photo) as a possible immature Wandering Albatross (*Diomedea exulans*). This was apparently the basis for inclusion on the Hawaiian Islands list by Peterson (1961, Appendix II). Munro (1944) published the photo, describing the bird as an unidentified albatross, and not mentioning Wandering Albatross as a possibility. The photo shows an immature Short-tailed Albatross, the first record of that species in the Hawaiian Islands. Wandering Albatrosses breed on sub-Antarctic islands and range throughout the southern oceans, with two records along the w. North American coast (*cf.* CBRC 2007, Pyle and Sullivan 2010). Isenbeck (*in* von Kittlitz 1834) also reported that the (at the time) undescribed white albatross breeding on Laysan Island might have been *Diomedea exulans*.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Literature cited


http://hbs.bishopmuseum.org/birds/rlp-monograph/