

Least Bittern

Ixobrychus exilis

hypothetical, erroneous report

Peale (1848) listed this species or "one closely resembling it," as frequenting the fresh water streams and taro patches on O'ahu, but having lost all specimens at sea, he could not say positively that they were of Least Bitterns. Occurrence in Hawaii was repeated by Cassin (1858), Gray (1859), Finsch and Hartlaub (1867), and Dole (1869, 1879); Cassin seemed hesitant about it, stating that it had not been found in other Pacific islands, whereas Dole indicated that both this species and [Black-crowned Night-Heron](#) took the same prey. Peale's reports likely pertain to first-year Black-crowned Night-Herons. Least Bitterns are local inhabitants of America from Oregon and se. Canada S to n. South America, with n. breeding populations migratory (AOU 1998).

[Acronyms and Abbreviations](#)

[Literature cited](#)

Citation: Pyle, R.L., and P. Pyle. 2017. The Birds of the Hawaiian Islands: Occurrence, History, Distribution, and Status. B.P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI, U.S.A. Version 2 (1 January 2017) <http://hbs.bishopmuseum.org/birds/flp-monograph/>