INTERMDIATE EGRET

Mesophoyx intermedia

non-breeding visitor, vagrant

M. i intermedia

Intermediate Egret inhabits Australasia and E Asia, is a scarce non-breeding visitor E to Chuuk in Micronesia (Wiles et al 2004, Wiles 2005, VanderWerf et al. 2006a), and has been recorded at least twice in Alaska (e.g., AOU 2007, Gibson et al. 2008). There is one substantiated record from the Hawaiian Islands, from Sand I, Midway, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, 24 Oct 2013 and remaining for about two weeks (HRBP 6353-6354; accepted by the HBRC in Nov 2014). Another bird, either an Intermediate or a Great egret was observed on Eastern I, Midway, 29 Apr 2016, but the identification was not confirmed. An earlier bird studied and photographed (HRBP 1145-1147, 1265-1269) at Midway 25 Jun-31 July 1997, was initially identified as an Intermediate Egret (Richardson 1999) and accepted for the Hawaii Checklist by Pyle (2002), but later examination of additional photographs led the AOU Check-list Committee (AOU 2004, 2007) to conclude that this bird was a Cattle Egret of the e. Asian subspecies (B.i. coromandus). See Cattle Egret for more information. Four subspecies of Intermediate Egret are often recognized (Gill and Donsker 2016), the widespread nominate M. i intermedia being the most expected in the Hawaiian Islands and fitting the characters of the Midway bird.

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/rlp-monograph/