

## COMMON RAVEN

*Corvus corax*

**non-breeding visitor, vagrant**

*C. c. kamtschaticus*

Common Raven is a widespread Holarctic species that breeds at temperate to arctic latitudes throughout the N Hemisphere (Dement'ev and Gladkov 1954a, Cramp and Perrins 1994a, AOU 1998). Many populations are resident whereas others undergo short to medium-distance migrations or withdrawals from colder climates in fall. There are 3-5 species of *Corvus* known from the subfossil record of O'ahu, Moloka'i, Maui, and Hawai'i (Olson and James 1982b, James 1987, James and Olson 1991, Banko et al. 2002, Fleisher and McIntosh 2002) that may be most-closely related to Common Raven based on molecular genetic evidence (Fleisher and McIntosh 2001) and other factors (Mayr 1945, Banko 2009; see [Hawaiian Crow](#)). There is one record of Common Raven from the *Northwestern Hawaiian Islands*, of a bird observed on **Kure** 12 Feb-21 Mar 2014 ([HRBP](#) 6742-6743, published *NAB* 68:444). It was wary during its stay and was frequently mobbed by White and noddy terns. Although ship-assistance was considered a possibility for this occurrence, the [HBRC](#) accepted this species to the Hawaiian Island Checklist, based on this record, in Oct 2014. The raven was very large and had a very large bill, factors that appeared to eliminate the western North American subspecies *C.c. principalis* and would favor the most expected subspecies, *kamtschaticus*, which occurs from ne. Siberia through the Aleutian Is to w. Alaska.

### [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/>