

Additions to the Avifauna of Guam¹

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While some of the following 10 bird species have been recorded on other Micronesian islands (Seale, 1901; Baker, 1951; Jouanin, 1956), they have never been recorded on Guam.

Puffinus tenuirostris (Temminck) 1835-Short-tailed Shearwater

I found 16 dead Short-tailed Shearwaters at Pago Bay, 3 weeks after Typhoon Amy on 1 June 1971. On 14 May 1974, Theodore L. Tansy, University of Guam, notified me that he had picked up 5 sick sea birds. I collected them and then I checked the east coast between Pago Bay and Togcha River for others. I found 50 dead and 3 live birds. All were identified as Short-tailed Shearwaters. Eight live birds died during the night. Autopsies revealed that all of the birds had died of starvation and drowning, probably a result of the tropical storm which had occurred at Guam during the week of 5 May 1974.

Bryan (1936) included this species as a 'chance arrival' in his list of Guam birds. Baker (1951) cites Bryan with a question mark. Correspondence with Bryan (letter dated 4 March 1976) clarifies his 'chance arrival' remark:

"I believe that you should regard it (Drahos birds) as really being the first *actual* record, despite the fact that I listed this name in part 1 of "Birds of Guam", in the *Guam Recorder*, vol. 13, no. 2, page 15, 1936. Here is my basis for my records:—

I did not collect any specimens of birds while I was on Guam in March to May 1936, although I made notes on a number of species of birds, which prompted my series of articles in the *Guam Recorder*. In the original manuscript of these articles . . . I documented my sources; but the editor carefully deleted the notes on sources. Thus, for "*Puffinus tenuirostris tenuirostris* (Temminck)", I had noted that it was based on "*Report of a Mission to Guam*" by Alvin Seale, 1901, page 23 . . . I interpreted Seale's record of *Puffinus tenebrosus* Pelzeln as being a synonym for *P. tenuirostris*; whereas I now believe it to be a synonym of some subspecies of the Dusky Shearwater, *Puffinus lherminieri* Finsch and Hartlaub.

I have carefully checked the specimens brought back from Guam by Seale, and cannot find that he collected any specimen of what he called *Puffinus lherminieri dichrous* Finsch and Hartlaub. He didn't bring back any specimen of it either, but I am inclined to accept this record as correct. Thus he actually recorded only one species of *Puffinus*, and that from sight records."

Based on the above clarification, I believe my specimens are the first recorded Short-tailed Shearwaters from Guam. Seven specimens were sent to the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Specimen numbers are NNMNH 500222-NMNH 500228.

¹ A contribution of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937.

Puffinus puffinus (Brunnich) 1764-Manx Shearwater

A live bird was captured in Merizo, 10 June 1974. I fed it through 14 June but it escaped that day while I was photographing it. The head, back, and rounded tail were sooty black with the black of the head occurring 6 millimeters below the eye; the eyes were dark brown with black pupils; the upper bill was black with the lower bill slightly blue; the upper bill was marked with parallel nasal grooves; the under parts were white except the undertail feathers which were black, tipped with white; the nape and rump were indented with white; the legs were black on the outside and flesh-pink inside; the outer toe was black but the others were flesh-pink on the inside and black on the outside; the webs were flesh-pink.

The total length (34 cm), the black back, the parallel nasal grooves, and the white indentations at the nape and rump placed the birds in the *Puffinus puffinus* subspecies. The bill did not fit the bill patterns of any of the shearwaters in Slater (1970), except possibly the Fluttering's, but its nasal grooves curved downward on the upper mandible well back of the tip, whereas the grooves on my specimen descended near the tip.

Warren B. King of the Smithsonian Institution (letter dated 8 March 1974) believes that my specimen description and measurements fit the Newell race of the Manx Shearwater, provided that I could account for the excessive tail length measurements (11 cm). I could, for I measured the tail from the base, and not from the tip of the tail feathers to where they emerged from the tail.

I conclude, based on the measurements, description, and color photography, that my bird was a Newell race of the Manx Shearwater whose home range is the Hawaiian Island group, some 5,800 kilometers from Guam. Four other records (Jouanin, 1956; King and Gould, 1967) exist from land areas south or west of the Hawaiian Islands: 2 from Wake Island; 1 from Johnston Atoll; 1 from Saipan.

Sula sula (Linnaeus) 1776-Red-footed Booby

On 2 September 1971, John J. Jeffery (Wildlife Biologist) and I saw a Red-footed Booby at Orote Point on a buoy at the mouth of Apra Harbor. Jeffrey photographed the bird in color at a distance of 7.6 m. The feet of the booby were red. On 20 June 1974, we collected a Red-footed Booby from the same buoy. On 3 September 1974, a crippled Red-footed Booby was brought to me. The measurements on the 2 specimens were, respectively: exposed culmen, 85, 79 mm; tarsus, 39.3, 39.7 mm; wing, 367, 372 mm; weights, 928 g on the first, but not taken on the thin, crippled bird.

Bubulcus ibis (Linnaeus) 1758-Cattle Egret

The Cattle Egret has not been recorded previously from any of the Mariana Islands (Baker 1951). On 30 October 1972, I noted 21 egrets on the U. S. Air Force antenna fields in Mangilao. These were routinely censused on the same fields weekly through 5 March 1973 when the flock dispersed. Eleven of the birds were found on the Department of Agriculture pasture in front of my office. The others were not noted again. On 10 April, I noted plumage color changes typical of Cattle Egrets, *Bubulcus ibis*, on 6 of the birds: saffron heads, necks, and backs. No other

egret has these breeding plumage characteristics.

A note in the field files of the Division of Fish and Wildlife by Gerald S. A. Perez on 21 March 1967 indicates that the Cattle Egret was definitely on Guam then, if not earlier. Perez's note stated that he had observed 20 Plumed Egrets still in winter plumage, but that one had rust-brown plumage on the head, throat, nape, and back, and that 3 others had faint colorations in the same areas.

Anas querquedula Linnaeus 1758-Garganey Teal

An unidentified teal was collected by M. H. Taylor (Wildlife Biologist) on 5 November 1964 from a puddle at Northwest Air Field. Taylor made a study skin. On 2 October 1972, I noted 3 Garganey Teal with 3 Pintails, *Anas acuta*, 3 Shovelers, *Anas clypeata*, and 14 Tufted Ducks, *Aythya fuligula*, at the Martinez pond in Dandan, Molojloj. Jeffrey and I collected 2 males near there on 2 November 1972. These served to verify previous flight observations, and the identification of the 1964 Taylor skin which now is NMNH no. 536709. Six other Garganey Teal were seen by me at the same pond on 9 February 1973.

Previously, Baker (1951) noted 2 birds from Tinian, 1 of which was collected by Joe T. Marshall, Jr. There are no other records of this species from the Mariana Islands.

Anas clypeata Linnaeus 1758-Shoveler Duck

I saw 3 Shoveler ducks on 15 October 1972 on the Martinez pond in Dandan, Molojloj. Six others were seen there by me on 2 February 1973; and, on 28 February, Jeffrey and I were told that some duck carcasses were lying on the Molojloj road. We found 2 Shoveler and 1 Pintail carcasses that had been run over by a vehicle. None of the skins could be saved. Previously, Baker (1951) noted the distribution of this species only on Pagan and Tinian islands.

Francolinus francolinus (Linnaeus) 1776-Black Francolin

Of 202 Black Francolins that were brought to Guam from India for introduction, 182 were released: 171 on 29 April 1961 near the U. S. Naval Magazine on the Cross Island Road in central Guam, 11 on 16 September at the Department of Agriculture Mangilao pasture. The latter disappeared while the former survived to produce progeny until this date. They now are present over approximately 26 km² of savanna grasslands. As yet, no hunting season has been opened on them. Censuses and periodic trapping research have been done by Division of Fish and Wildlife personnel.

Sterna sumatrana Raffles 1822-Black-naped Tern

Harry T. Kami, Rufo J. Lujan (Fish Biologists), Jeffrey and I noted several unknown terns flying near Cocos Is., Merizo on 23 August 1973. Jeffrey and I returned on 20 September and we collected 2 adults (male and female) still in breeding plumage. The skins bear the NMNH numbers 536698 and 536699. Three other Black-naped Terns were seen on 20 June 1974 by Jeffrey and me in the Polaris Point area; and, 2 more were seen there by me on 28 November 1974. These are the first specimen records from the Mariana Islands although King (1967) notes that birds have been observed off shore.

Sterna fuscata Linnaeus 1766-Sooty Tern

A dead Sooty Tern was found at Umatac on 18 November 1971. It was at least 1 year old when banded at or near Laysan Island, Hawaii on 6 May 1966 by C. D. Hackman, National Museum of Natural History. The U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service reference file number is 07696. A live, unbanded bird was found in Agana Bay on 4 October 1975, but it did not live. The skin is now NMNH No. 526405. A study skin, collected by Jeffrey in November 1968, was sent to the National Museum of Natural History for positive identification by me in July 1976. It was identified as a subadult Sooty Tern in winter plumage. It bears the NMNH number 536710.

Asio flammeus (Pontoppidan) 1763-Short-eared Owl

An immature female Short-eared Owl was shot on the evening of 27 November 1968 by a hunter at Orote Point, Apra Harbor. A. M. Courtright (Wildlife Biologist) had the bird mounted and placed in the Division of Fish and Wildlife display case. I sent the specimen to the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH number 536700) for safekeeping and positive identification, for this was the first specimen of the Short-eared Owl ever collected or recorded from Guam, except as mentioned in folklore. Baker (1951) formerly listed Pagan and Tinian for its distribution in the Mariana Islands.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Warren B. King, of the National Museum of Natural History, confirmed identification of the specimens with NMNH numbers.

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