

Antarctic Giant-Petrel

Macronectes gigantea

hypothetical, unsubstantiated

Fisher (1965) reported observing a large bird, thought to be a giant-petrel, flying over Eastern I., Midway in Dec 1959 and again in Dec 1961. Another seen at the “northeastern beach” 9 Dec 1962 was identified as a dark-formed Antarctic (Southern) Giant Petrel; no further descriptive notes are given. Fisher mentions that this species is not easily confused with any others of the North Pacific but neglected to consider [Short-tailed Albatross](#) in predefinitive plumages, which can appear similar to giant-petrels. The northern giant-petrel has since been split to a separate species, *Macronectes halli* (Bourne & Warham 1966). This record was accepted as a valid sight observation by the AOU (1983, Appendix A) and as a species-pair by HAS (1981) and Pyle (1977-1983) but removed as unsubstantiated by Pyle (1988). The AOU (1998 in Appendix), although listing it as unconfirmed, continues to suggest the validity of these reports. Giant-petrels occur throughout the southern oceans, but without any confirmed records for the Northern Hemisphere (Harrison 1983, AOU 1998), more detailed descriptive notes are needed to substantiate the occurrence of this genus in the Hawaiian Islands (Pyle 1988).

[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/>