

BLACK-WINGED PETREL

Pterodroma nigripennis

non-breeding visitor, regular

monotypic

Black-winged Petrels breed on Kermadec Island and other islands around and north of New Zealand in Dec-Apr, many dispersing to the subtropical and temperate N Pacific (Harrison 1983, Pitman 1986, Marchant and Higgins 1990, Roberson and Bailey 1991). As recently as the late 1960s they were considered conspecific with Bonin Petrel (King 1967). Although the AOU (1998) lists this species as "casual" in Hawaiian waters, they are one of the more common visiting *Pterodroma*, with records year-round but with a peak in May-Dec. There is also a specimen from Wake Atoll (Rauzon et al. 2008).

At sea, a Black-winged Petrel found on a ship 110 km W of Hawai'i I 12 Nov 1965 and brought alive to an evening meeting of the Hawaii Audubon Society 15 Nov 1965 (*E* 26:84, 91) constituted the first record for Hawaiian Island waters. According to King's (1970) surveys in Mar 1964-Jun 1965, Black-winged Petrels migrate into waters south and east of the Southeastern Islands in May and are found commonly in Jun-Dec (peaking in October), and then are scarce in Jan-Apr, with only one individual recorded during this period (97 km east of Hawai'i I 7 Dec 1964). [HICEAS](#) observers reported Black-winged Petrels virtually every day from W of Kure E to Hawai'i I 14 Aug-20 Nov 2002 and 13 Aug-1 Dec 2010, with daily counts primarily of < 20 but occasionally up to 65. Concentrations around the Southeastern Islands were primarily to the SW of the chain (Winship et al. 2016). Gould (1983) recorded them in Hawaiian waters in early Nov 1976, and other researchers have reported Black-winged Petrels off almost all of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands in Apr-Nov of 1991-2013 (e.g., [HRBP](#) 5539-5542), including a high count of 41 observed near Nihoa 6-7 Nov 1996, and one predated by a [Peregrine Falcon](#) 213 km NE of Pearl and Hermes 4 Oct 1991 ([HRBP](#) 0956); there is yet to be a record from any of the Northwestern Island groups proper. Pitman (1986) and Spear et al. (1999) also found Black-winged Petrels to be numerous off the Southeastern Islands year-round, the high count being 40 recorded by Spear et al. 35-50 mi SW of Maui and Kaho'olawe 7 Oct 1987 ([HRBP](#) 0627).

In the *Northwestern Hawaiian Islands*, Black-winged Petrels have been observed during one-day trips from *Midway* 8 Sep 2011, 19 Sep 2012, and 18 Oct 2012. In the *Southeastern Hawaiian Islands*, up to 15 have been recorded during single-day trips to Lehua Islet off *Ni'ihau* and off *Kaua'i*, *O'ahu*, *Maui*, and *Hawai'i I*, primarily in Apr-Oct (e.g., [CRC data](#); many photos at [HRBP](#) page and published *NAB* 59:192). Among birds found ashore, individuals were found stranded at undisclosed locations on Kaua'i 11 Nov 2005 and 9 Oct 2009, and another came aboard a ship into Lihue 25 Nov 2011 and was photographed ([SOS data](#); [HRBP](#) 6157-6159). A petrel found grounded at Kilauea Pt., Kaua'i, 20 Sep 1974 ([HRBP](#) 5705 published *E* 41:68; Byrd and Zeillemaker 1981; *E* 35:121), identified as a Bonin Petrel, was perhaps more likely a Black-winged Petrel. One found injured near Makapu'u Beach, O'ahu, was taken to the SLP seabird rehabilitation facility 7 Dec 1996 and photographed ([HRBP](#) 1107-1111) but died 9 Dec, and others were turned in to SLP from unknown localities on O'ahu 7 June 2005 and 15 Oct 2007 ([HRBP](#) 5377), the latter bird cleaned of oil and released. One that came aboard a ship outside Kahului Harbor, Maui 10 Oct 1990 ([HRBP](#) 0916-0920) was later released, one with a missing eye was picked up in Lahaina 4 Sep 1992, photographed ([HRBP](#)

1001-1009) and released, and one was found and released in w. Maui 25 Oct 2005. The only specimens for the Hawaiian Islands were of birds found dead on Maui, at Ka'anapali 24 Oct 2004 (BPBM 184993; [HRBP](#) 5668 of specimen) and at Haewa Point 23 Nov 2005 (BPBM 185263, carcass). Additionally, observations of up to 8 Black-winged Petrels were recorded from shore off the ne. coast of Hawai'i I in Apr-Sep of 2015 and 2016.

[Acronyms and Abbreviations](#)

[Literature cited](#)

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