Memorandum to: The Director of BirdLife Australia

From: Birdlife Australia Rarities Committee (BARC)

Date: 21st October 2012

Voting Members:

Andrew Silcocks	Mike Carter
Danny Rogers	David Bishop
Tony Palliser	Rohan Clarke
Jamie Matthew	Jeff Davies

Cc.

Submission No 721: Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis* off Port Stephens, NSW. 20 November 2011. (Unpublished) Submitted by: Mick Roderick, Steve Roderick and Allan Richardson.

Verdict: Accepted

This submission concerns the occurrence of a Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis* at sea off Port Stephens, NSW (32° 55'.09 S, 152° 34'.24 E) on the 20th November 2011.

The description and photographs leave no doubt as to the bird's identity. Members voted unanimously in favour of acceptance.

This is the 11th confirmed record for Australia. This sighting is interesting in that it is outside the expedited date range, although this record may still form part of the invasion that occurred between February and April 2011.

References and Bibliography:

- BARC Case No. 687, 692, 693, 694, 704
- Patterson, R.M. (1996), *RAOU Records Appraisal Committee: Opinions and Case Summaries 1992-1995:* RAOU Report No. 101. Case Number 165, p23.
- Harrison, P. (1987), *Seabirds of the world: A photographic guide*. Christopher Helm, London.
- Enticott, J. & Tipling, D. (1997), *Photographic Handbook of the Seabirds of the World*, New Holland, London.
- Lindsey, T. (1986), *The Seabirds of Australia, National Photographic Index of Australian Wildlife,* Angus and Robertson, Sydney.
- Marchant, S. & Higgins, P.J. (Eds) (1990), *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand & Antarctic Birds. Vol. 1, Ratites to Ducks,* Oxford University Press, Melbourne.
- Onley, D. & Scofield, P. (2007), *Albatrosses, Petrels and Shearwaters of the World*, Christopher Helm, London.

Tony Palliser
Chairman, BirdLife Australia Rarities Committee