Memorandum to: The Director of Birds Australia

From: Birdlife Australia Rarities Committee (BARC)

Date: 11th February 2012

Voting Members:

Andrew Silcocks	Mike Carter
Danny Rogers	Chris Brandis
Tony Palliser	Rohan Clarke
Jamie Matthew	Jeff Davies

Cc.

Submission No 693: Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis* off Wollongong, NSW. 23 April 2011. (Unpublished) Submitted by: Lindsay Smith, Raja Stephenson & Nikolas Haass.

Verdict: Accepted

This submission concerns the occurrence of a Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis* at sea off Port Kembla, near Wollongong NSW (34° 36'.20 S, 151° 04'.56 E) on the 23rd April 2011. The bird was captured and banded by SOSSA (Southern Ocean Study Association) with band number 300-00154.

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

This is the 8th confirmed record for Australia. This sighting, along with many others reported between February and April 2011, may form part of an invasion of this species into Australian waters.

References and Bibliography:

- BARC Case No. 687 & 692
- 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, Birds Australia Rarities Committee