

NSW ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS APPRAISAL COMMITTEE

Roger McGovern

1/67 Cremorne Road

Cremorne NSW 2090

Ref: NSWORAC558

Date: 29-12-12

MEMORANDUM TO: Nikolas Haass, Rob Hynson and Raja Stephenson

c.c.

M. Roderick

R. Cooper

A. Morris

A. Palliser

C. Brandis

A. Rogers

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NSW ORAC CASE 558 – Little Shearwater (*Puffinus assimilis*)

This report details the sighting of a Little Shearwater by Nikolas Haass et al on a pelagic trip off Sydney on July 14, 2012. This case was not easy to assess due to the fact that the bird was seen for a short time and the photographs taken were not of the highest quality. However, a very good case was made based on an excellent description, photographic analysis and a careful comparison with confusion species. This, together with the experience of the several observers on the boat resulted in the committee voting to accept the record. It should be noted that a Little Shearwater reported on the same day by Bob Proctor (NSW ORAC Case 557 – accepted) was probably the same individual.

The committee unanimously accepted this record and thanks Nikolas, Rob and Raja for taking the time to prepare the submission. There have been some 27 reports of Little Shearwater in NSW over the past ten years although many of these records are unconfirmed since the species was only recently added to the Review List.

ACCEPT

NSW ORAC Secretary

Roger McGovern

