

Submission No 820: Polynesian Storm Petrel *Nesofregatta fuliginosa* Queensland Sea Mount, QLD 12th April 2014. Submitted by: Robert Morris.

Verdict: Accepted

This case involves the sighting of a Polynesian Storm Petrel *Nesofregatta fuliginosa* from an area known as the Queensland Sea Mount (17 36 87S / 155 07 68E) on the 12th April 2014. The bird was in view for about 5 minutes and was seen by all 13 observers on-board the "Laura J".

The relatively close views and ensuing photographs included within the submission along with a supportive description confirmed the identity beyond all doubt.

Members voted unanimously in favour of acceptance.

Generally Polynesian Storm Petrel ranges across the Pacific from Chile to New Caledonia. This is the third confirmed record for Australia. The first was a bird seen 160 nautical miles northwest of Norfolk Island on the 7th April 2008 (BARC Case No. 563) and the second was a sighting off Southport, QLD on the 19th January 2013 (BARC Case No. 774).

Suggested Bibliography:

- Enticott, J. & Tipling, D. (1997), *Photographic Handbook of the Seabirds of the World*, New Holland, London.
- Harrison, P. (1983), *Seabirds: an identification guide*, Croom Helm, Beckenham, Kent.
- Harrison, P. (1987), *Seabirds of the World: A Photographic Guide*, Christopher Helm, London.
- 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.
- Palliser T. BARC Case No. 563 Polynesian Storm Petrel NW of Norfolk Island 7th April 2008
- Palliser T. BARC Case No. 774 Polynesian Storm Petrel off Southport 19th January 2013

Tony Palliser

Chair: Birdlife Australia Rarities Committee.