

Submission No 780: South Polar Skua *Stercorarius maccormicki* off Wollongong NSW 23rd September 2012. Submitted by: Michael Rutkowski

Verdict: Accepted

This submission relates to the sighting of a South Polar Skua *Stercorarius maccormicki* seen and photographed off Wollongong NSW on the 23rd September 2012.

The submission relies on a brief description and an excellent series of photographs of what is clearly an intermediate morph. The bird was observed intermittently for 2 to 3 hours.

Members voted unanimously in favour of acceptance. Making this record the 18th to be confirmed by BARC.

Selected Bibliography:

- Enticott, J. & Tipling, D., (1997), *Photographic Handbook of Seabirds of the World*, Hew Holland, London.
- Higgins, P.J. & Davies, S.J.J.F., (1996), *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand & Antarctic Birds, Vol. 3, Snipe to Pigeons*, Oxford, Melbourne.
- Harrison, P., (1987), *Seabirds of the World: a Photographic Guide*, Christopher Helm. Bromley.
- King, J. & D. Parkin (1997). Great skua upheavals. *Birding World*. 10:362-363
- Olsen, K.M. & Larsson, H. (1997), *Skuas and Jaegers, a Guide to the Skuas and Jaegers of the World*, Pica, Sussex.
- Parmelee, D.F. (1988). The hybrid skua: a Southern Ocean enigma. *Wilson Bulletin*. 100:345-356.
- Pringle, J.D. (1987), *The Shorebirds of Australia*, Angus and Robertson, Sydney.
- Shiriha, H & Jarrett, B. (2008). *The complete guide to Antarctic Wildlife: Birds and Marine Mammals of the Antarctic Continent and the Southern Ocean* (2nd Ed.) Princeton University Press.

Tony Palliser
Chairman, Birds Australia Rarities Committee