

BARC CASES PERTAINING TO NSW DECIDED IN 2019

987	Juan Fernandez Petrel	off Wollongong	August 10, 1985	Accepted
1050	New Zealand Storm Petrel	off Crowdy Head	January 13, 2019	Accepted
1066	Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Jerseyville	November 25, 2018	Accepted
1077	Rosy Starling	Gwandalan	August 12, 2019	Accepted

CASE SUMMARIES

Case 987: This case concerned the sighting of a Juan Fernandez Petrel *Pterodroma externa* at sea off Wollongong on August 10, 1985. The submission relied entirely on the original field notes and field sketches in the observer's notebook which clearly identify the bird. The combination of large size, absence of a pale collar and the very small carpal mark in an otherwise all white underwing ruled out all ID contenders. This is only the second record for Australia to be accepted by BARC but predates the first record which was found inland at Cessnock on October 27, 1988 (BARC Case 168). Tony Palliser (Note that this case was decided in 2018 but was omitted from that report)

Case 1050: This case concerned the sighting of a striped storm petrel considered by the submitter to be a New Zealand Storm Petrel *Fregetta maoriana* at sea off Crowdy Head on January 13, 2019. Although six members of the committee voted to accept the record as a New Zealand Storm Petrel, the remainder felt that there was insufficient knowledge of the plumage variations of the undescribed taxon usually referred to as 'New Caledonian Storm Petrel' to totally rule out this taxon as a possibility. Consequently, the committee agreed to accept the record as either a New Zealand Storm Petrel or a 'New Caledonian Storm Petrel' until more information comes to hand at which time this sighting can be reviewed again. This is the 7th such record to be accepted by BARC with all sightings being from the east coast. Ashley Carlson

Case 1066: This case concerned the sighting of a Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis* at Jerseyville on November 24, 2018, with the bird remaining in the area until at least December 4, 2018. The high quality photographs included in the submission left no doubt as to the identification and the committee voted unanimously in favour of acceptance. It becomes the 12th confirmed Australian record. Ian Bradshaw

Case 1077: This case concerned the sighting of a Rosy Starling *Pastor roseus* at Gwandalan on August 12, 2019 with subsequent searches failing to rediscover the bird. The submission relies on a series of photographs which clearly depict a Rosy Starling, with the pink and black plumage characters being diagnostic and unique. The committee voted unanimously in favour of acceptance and discounted the possibility that it was an escapee given that this species is not kept as a cage bird in Australia. This becomes the 5th record for Australia and the only previous NSW record was from Coffs Harbour on December 4–6, 2006. (BARC Case 520) Sharon Boyter

Roger McGovern

Secretary NSW Ornithological Records Appraisal Committee

January 20, 2020

