

Species: WILSON'S STORM-PETREL

Record No. 109-14-06

Location: 39mi WSW NEWPORT  
County: LINCOLN  
Date(s): AUGUST 16, 2014

Reporters	details	slides	prints	tapes
BOB ARCHER			A TO I	
ROGER ROBB	J			
SHAWNEEN FINNEGAN	K		L-M N	
JOHN RAKESTRAW	O		P	
RUSS HAMITZ WINKGROSS	Q		R TO V	

Specimen no. & location \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Accepted 9-0  
verified   
Single rept. sighting \_\_\_\_\_  
Multiple rept. sighting \_\_\_\_\_

Not accepted \_\_\_\_\_  
origin questionable \_\_\_\_\_  
exotic not estab. \_\_\_\_\_

Records split \_\_\_\_\_

Records combined \_\_\_\_\_

Disposition

Secretary's File  
Main File J K O Q  
Slide File \_\_\_\_\_  
Print File A TO I, L-M-N, P, R TO V  
Tape File \_\_\_\_\_

Duplicate File  
details J K O Q  
slides \_\_\_\_\_  
prints A TO I, L-M-N, P, R TO V  
tapes \_\_\_\_\_

Date reporter(s) notified: 5-9-15

109-14-06 J

## Rare Bird Report

Roger Robb  
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### Wilson's Storm-Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus*

August 16, 2014

The bird was observed on a pelagic trip from Newport, Oregon run by The Bird Guide, about 33 miles west of Newport, GPS coordinates 44.594651 N, -124.746385 W. We were observing a flock of approximately one thousand Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels, *Oceanodroma furcata*, when the bird was first spotted by guide Russ Namitz as it approached the boat.

The bird was considerably smaller than the nearby Fork-tailed Storm Petrels with much shorter wings, and was smaller and shorter winged than an Ashy Storm-Petrel, *Oceanodroma homochroa*, which appeared a few minutes later and interacted closely with the Wilson's Storm-Petrel. The bird was slaty black in color overall with no white on the underparts and a clean, white rump patch that extended to the sides of the tail. The tail appeared square and not forked. The flight feathers were dark with a contrasting brownish patch on the upper wing which seemed limited to the greater coverts. The bill and legs were black and the legs extended beyond the tail. The flight seemed less erratic and more direct than the Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels, and the bird danced on the surface several times with a pattering motion of the feet.

I have observed good numbers of Wilson's Storm Petrel's on pelagic trips from Montauk Point, New York; from the Bluenose Ferry traveling from Bar Harbor, Maine to Nova Scotia; on a pelagic from Valparaiso, Chile and from a ferry in Tierra del Fuego, Chile.

The bird was observed mid-afternoon in clear conditions at a distance of 40-100 yards using Swarovski 10x42 binoculars. The bird repeatedly flew around the boat for several minutes and at one point interacted closely with an Ashy Storm-Petrel. I did not take photographs, but photographs were taken by others and are available from Tim Shelmerdine, Russ Namitz and Shawneen Finnegan of The Bird Guide.

Roger R. Robb

109-14-06 K

## WILSON'S STORM-PETREL

16 August 2014

GPS Location: 44.566,-124.866 (@ 39 mi WSW off Newport)

Observer: Shawneen Finnegan

Optics: 8.5 x 42 NIKON bins

Russ Namitz first spotted this Wilson's Storm-Petrel shortly after we lost sight of the Black Storm-Petrel and before he spotted the Ashy.

My first photo of the WISP was taken at 3:55 PM and the last at 4:13 PM. My photos of the Ashy were at 3:12-3:13 PM. It was all quite frantic with the Wilson's and Ashy being in sight at the same time.

Many photos were taken including by me. I have attached several.

### **Description:**

Seen in the company of numerous Fork-taileds. It was somewhat smaller and very black on head and body. The wings were very triangular shaped being very broad at the base, tapering to the tips of the primaries. Not that I noticed in field, but in the photos the primaries look quite worn. The photos also show it is undergoing molt, replacing its secondaries. Also visible are the pale carpal bars.

Very distinctive was the broad white rump band that wrapped around on both sides onto the flanks. The relatively short tail was fairly square in shape. The long black legs extended beyond the tail. I never saw the yellow webbing between the toes, but did get to see this feature on a photo that Dave Ward (of Portland) showed me on the back of his camera, not long after the storm-petrel show was over. This is diagnostic for Wilson's.

Attached are three photos:

Shawneen Finnegan  
Portland, Oregon

109-14-06 0

Wilson's Storm-Petrel  
August 16, 2014  
Approx. 33 miles off of Newport

Sunny skies, sun behind observer

One Wilson's Storm-Petrel was in a large flock of Fork-tailed Storm Petrels. The bird was dark brown, with faint tan carpal bars. It had a broad white band across the rump that wrapped around to the undertail coverts. The size was comparable to the adjacent Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels. The wings were broad at the base. The bird flew with shallow wing beats, and pattered its feet across the water's surface as it fed. The legs were long, with the feet projecting well beyond the end of the tail as the bird flew.

I have seen many Wilson's Storm-Petrels on four pelagic trips off the coast of Maine, the most recent being one year ago.

Leach's Storm-Petrels have elongated rump patches, usually with a dark line down the center; fly with deep wing beats; and have shorter legs that do not project beyond the tail. Wilson's is the only storm-petrel that has a white rump and feet that project beyond the tail.

Photo attached.

John Rakestraw

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John & Marsha Rakestraw  
Portland, OR  
503.296.0640



# Rare Bird Report Form

## Oregon Bird Records Committee – OBRC

### 1. NAME & ADDRESS

Russ Namitz  
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(541) 294 - 2063

109-19-06 ♀

### 2. BIRD IDENTIFICATION

Wilson's Storm-Petrel

### 3. DATE(S)

August 16, 2014

### 4. LOCATION

Lincoln County, OR about 33 miles west of Newport, OR.

Latitude 44.594651 N

Longitude 124.746385 W

### 5. DETAILS

#### Prominent field marks observed

Small, dark body, white rump extending onto belly, feet extended past the tail.

#### Behavior

Pattered its yellow-webbed toes on the water several times.

#### Voice

n/a

#### Reasons for identification

It was a small, dark storm-petrel with the unique feature of a white rump and feet that extended past the tail.

Other species considered were:

Leach's Storm-Petrel: Much larger with nighthawk-like flight and white doesn't extend onto sides/belly.

Band-rumped Storm-Petrel: Feet don't extend past the tail and white on sides is not as extensive.

Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrel: Has more white on the rump/tail to create the wedge shape of its namesake; feet do not extend past the tail.

#### Circumstances of the observation

I was sifting through storm-petrels coming to our slick on a Bird Guide pelagic trip out of Newport when I noticed a small, dark storm-petrel with a white rump and feet trailing the tail. I recognized it immediately, even in the sun glare and called it out. All passengers got good looks.