

Mediterranean Storm-petrel. Marettimo, Egadi Islands, Sicily. 18th April 2007.  
Photo: Arnoud van den Berg and The Sound Approach.



# List of Storm-petrels with References

Compiled by Joe Hobbs



## Introduction

I have endeavoured to keep typos, errors, omissions etc in this list to a minimum, however when you find more I would be grateful if you could mail the details during 2016 & 2017 to: josephobbs@gmail.com.

Please note that this and other Reference Lists I have compiled are **not exhaustive** and are best employed in conjunction with other sources.

Grateful thanks to Arnoud van den Berg and The Sound Approach ([www.soundapproach.co.uk](http://www.soundapproach.co.uk)) and Michael O'Keeffe ([www.birdingimagequalitytool.blogspot.ie](http://www.birdingimagequalitytool.blogspot.ie)) for the cover images. All images © the photographers.

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The general order of species follows the International Ornithologists' Union World Bird List (**Gill, F. & Donsker, D.** (eds). 2015. IOC World Bird List. Available from: <http://www.worldbirdnames.org/> [version 6.4 accessed November 2016]).

Note: the Austral Storm-petrels (Oceanitidae) and Northern Storm-petrels (Hydrobatidae) are not sister taxa (Nunn & Stanley 1998, Penhallurick & Wink 2004, Hackett *et al.* 2008). Consequently the IOC World List beginning with version version 5.3 resequences both families, with the Oceanitidae now preceding the Diomedidae and the Hydrobatidae following the Diomedidae. These changes do not affect the list order in this document.

## Version

Version 1.7 (December 2016).

## Cover

Main image: Mediterranean Storm-petrel. Marettimo, Egadi Islands, Sicily. 18th April 2007. Picture by Arnoud van den Berg and The Sound Approach.

Vignette: White-bellied Storm-petrel. At sea in the South Atlantic off the coast of Argentina. 13th February 2009. Picture by Michael O'Keeffe.

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## Austral Storm-petrels (Oceanitidae)

### Wilson's Storm-petrel

***Oceanites oceanicus*** [Kühl 1820, South Georgia].

[*O.o. oceanicus*] Breeding: Cape Horn, Falkland Islands, South Georgia & Bouvet Island (S Atlantic), Crozet, Kerguelen & Heard Island (S Indian Ocean), Macquarie Island (Australia region), Balleny Islands & Scott Island (Ross Sea, Southern Ocean) and Peter I Island (Bellingshausen Sea, Southern Ocean).

[*O.o. exasperatus*] Breeding: South Shetland Island, South Sandwich Island & South Orkney Islands (Southern Ocean / S Atlantic) and coastal and interior Antarctica.

[*O.o. chilensis*] Breeding: Chile.

Non-breeding: Throughout the Atlantic, Indian & Pacific oceans to almost any latitude.

Fuegian Storm-petrel (*chilensis*) is probably a full species.

Other names: Antarctic Storm-petrel (*exasperatus*), Fuegian Storm-petrel (*chilensis*).

**Alexander Wilson** (1766-1813), pioneering Scottish-American ornithologist, poet and illustrator. The Wilson Bulletin and Wilson Journal of Ornithology are named in his honour.

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## Elliot's Storm-petrel

***Oceanites gracilis*** [Elliot 1859, W coast of South America].

[*O.g. gracilis*] Breeding: Isla Chungungo (off Chile, SE Pacific).

[*O.g. galapagoensis*] Breeding: Presumed to be Galapagos Islands.

Non-breeding: Vicinity of the Humboldt Current between latitudes 2°- 30°S.

Other names: White-vented Storm-petrel, Graceful Storm-petrel, Lowe's Storm-petrel (*galapagoensis*).

**Daniel Giraud Elliot** (1835-1915), American ornithologist and co-founder of the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU).

**Percy Roycroft Lowe** (1870-1948), English surgeon and ornithologist. Editor of the Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club from 1920 to 1925. President of the BOU from 1938 to 1943.

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## Pincoya Storm-petrel

***Oceanites pincoyae*** [Harrison *et al.* 2013, Seno de Reloncavi].

Breeding: Presumed to be Seno de Reloncavi (S of Puerto Montt and N of Golfo de Ancud, C Chile).

Non-breeding: Possibly Puerto Montt and Chacao channels and vicinity, Chile.

Other name: Seno Storm-petrel, Puerto Montt Storm-petrel.

The Pincoya is a mythological water spirit said to inhabit waters in the vicinity of Chiloe Island.

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## Grey-backed Storm-petrel

***Garrodia nereis*** [Gould 1841, Bass Strait, Australia].

Breeding: South Georgia & Gough Island (S Atlantic), Crozet & Kerguelen (S Indian Ocean), Auckland Island, Antipodes Island & Chatham Islands (New Zealand region) and possibly S Chile, Falkland Islands and islands around Stewart Island (off South Island, New Zealand).

Non-breeding: Not fully known, possibly remains in the vicinity of the breeding grounds.

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### White-faced Storm-petrel

***Pelagodroma marina*** [Latham 1790, off the mouth of the River Plate, Argentina and Uruguay].  
 [*P.m. marina*] Breeding: Tristan da Cunha and possibly Gough Island (S Atlantic).  
 [*P.m. hypoleuca*] Breeding: Ilhas Selvagens (N Atlantic).  
 [*P.m. eadesorum*] Breeding: Cape Verde Islands.  
 [*P.m. albiclunis*] Breeding: Kermadec Islands (SW Pacific).  
 [*P.m. dulciae*] Breeding: W & S Australia and Tasmania.  
 [*P.m. maoriana*] Breeding: New Zealand and Auckland Island & Chatham Islands (New Zealand region).  
 Non-breeding: NC Atlantic, Indian Ocean & S Pacific.  
 Other names: Frigate Petrel, Kermadec Storm-petrel (*albiclunis*), Takahi-kare-moana (*maoriana*).

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### **White-bellied Storm-petrel**

***Fregetta grallaria*** [Vieillot 1817, Australia].

[*F.g. grallaria*] Breeding: Admiralty Island (Lord Howe group, Tasman Sea) & Kermadec Islands (SW Pacific). Non-breeding: tropical W Pacific.

[*F.g. leucogaster*] Breeding: Tristan da Cunha (S Atlantic) and St. Paul Island & Amsterdam Island (S Indian Ocean). Non-breeding: S Atlantic & S Indian Oceans.

[*F.g. segethi*] Breeding: San Félix & San Ambrosio Island (Desventuradas Islands, off Chile, SW Pacific). Non-breeding: SE Pacific.

[*F.g. titan*] Breeding: Rapa (Bass Islands, Austral Islands group, S French Polynesia). Non-breeding: S Pacific.

Other name: Vieillot's Storm-petrel, Titan Storm-petrel (*titan*).

**Louis Jean Pierre Vieillot** (1748-1831), French ornithologist.

1st WP Record: A report of this species off Dakhla, Western Sahara on the 17th August 1986 (Haase 1988) does not appear to be well supported by the available evidence, for which see Crochet & Haas (2008).

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### **Black-bellied Storm-petrel**

- Fregetta tropica*** [Gould 1844, equatorial regions of Atlantic Ocean].  
 [*F.t. tropica*] Breeding: South Georgia & Bouvet Island (S Atlantic), South Shetland Island & South Orkney Islands (Southern Ocean / S Atlantic), Crozet, Kerguelen & Prince Edward Island (S Indian Ocean), Auckland Island, Antipodes Island & Bounty Islands (New Zealand region).  
 [*F.t. melanoleuca*] Breeding: Tristan da Cunha & Gough Island (S Atlantic).  
 Non-breeding: N to the equator in Atlantic, Indian & Pacific Oceans.  
 Other name: Striped Storm-petrel.  
 1st WP Record: 8th August 2011. At sea, 15' NE of Madeira. Catarina Correia-Fagundes, Hugo Romano *et al.* (Correia-Fagundes & Romano 2011).
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### **New Zealand Storm-petrel**

*Fregetta maoriana* [Mathews 1932].

Breeding: Not yet fully established, some on Little Barrier Island in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park (N North Island, New Zealand) and possibly Mercury Islands (off Coromandel peninsula, North Island, New Zealand). Non-breeding: Not fully known.

This species was thought to be extinct by 1850. On 23rd January 2003, a bird observed and photographed off Whitianga in Hauraki Gulf, North Island, New Zealand was thought to be this species. Sightings in Hauraki Gulf continued annually and during the summer of 2005-06 four birds were captured. In 2011 a comparison of DNA samples taken from the Hauraki Gulf birds and museum specimens from the 19th century has confirmed they are the same species (Robertson *et al.* 2011).

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## Polynesian Storm-petrel

***Nesofregatta fuliginosa*** [Gmelin 1789, Tahiti].

Breeding: New Caledonia, Line Islands & Phoenix Islands (Kiribati, C Pacific), Austral Islands, Gambier group, Society Islands & Marquesas Islands (French Polynesia) & Sala y Gómez (SE Pacific) and possibly Vanuatu, Samoa & Fiji.

Non-breeding: Probably remains close to breeding areas.

Other names: White-throated Storm-petrel, Samoan Storm-petrel.

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## Northern Storm-petrels - Hydrobatidae

### European Storm-petrel

***Hydrobates pelagicus*** [Linnaeus 1758, Sweden].

Breeding: Westman Islands (Iceland), Loften Islands (NW Norway), islands off W Ireland, Britain & Brittany (NW France), Biarritz (W France) & N Spain and Ilhas Selvagens & Canary Islands.

Non-breeding: S to the coasts of Africa from Mauritania to S Africa and thru the S Atlantic.

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- Bolton, M. & Thomas, R.** 2001. Moulting and ageing of Storm Petrels *Hydrobates pelagicus*. *Ringling & Migration* 20(3): 193-201.
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- Booth, C.J. & Adam, R.G.** 2006. Predation of European Storm-petrels by Great Black-backed Gulls on the island of Aukerry, Orkney. *Scottish Birds* 26: 43-45.
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## Mediterranean Storm-petrel

*Hydrobates melitensis* [Schembri 1843].

Breeding: Mediterranean Spain & France, Balearic Islands, Corsica, Sardinia, Sicily, Malta, Italy, the Balkans & Greece.

Non-breeding: Probably remains in the Mediterranean.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 as a possible race of European Storm-petrel.

Treated by the BOU as a race of European Storm-petrel (Sangster *et al.* 2012).

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### Least Storm-petrel

- Oceanodroma microsoma*** [Coues 1864, San José del Caba, Baja California].  
Breeding: Islas San Benito (W coast of Baja California) and islands in the Gulf of California.  
Non-breeding: S to seas off C America as far as Colombia and perhaps further S.  
Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 as *Halocptena microsoma*.
- Flood, R.L.** 2009. 'All-dark' *Oceanodroma* storm-petrels in the Atlantic and neighbouring seas. *British Birds* 102(7): 365-385 (366).
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### Wedge-rumped Storm-petrel

- Oceanodroma tethys*** [Bonaparte 1852, Galapágos Islands].  
[*O.t. tethys*] Breeding: Isla Pitt, Roca Redonda & Isla Genovesa (Galapágos Islands).  
[*O.t. kelsalli*] Breeding: Isla Pescadores, Isla Los Vieja, Isla San Lorenzo & Isla San Gallán (off W Peru).  
Non-breeding: N to S California and W to E Pacific.  
Other names: Galapágos Storm-petrel (*tethys*), Peruvian Storm-petrel (*kelsalli*).
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### **Band-rumped Storm-petrel**

***Oceanodroma castro*** [Harcourt 1851, Desertas Islets, Madeira].

Breeding: Berlengas & Farilhões archipelago (off Portugal), Azores, Porto Santo & Desertas Islands (Madeira), Ilhas Selvagens, islets off Tenerife (Canary Islands), Cape Verde Islands, Boatswain Bird Island (E of Ascension Island) & St. Helena (S Atlantic), Hide-jima (Japan region), Kauai (Hawaii) & Galapagos Islands.

Non-breeding: E Atlantic, seas off Japan & E Pacific.

In addition to Monteiro's and Cape Verde Storm-petrels, Robb *et al.* 2008 identify two other Band-rumped type Storm-petrels found in the North Atlantic as follows:

Madeiran Storm-petrel, a hot season breeder from Madeira.

Grant's Storm-petrel, a cool season breeder from the Azores, Berlengas, Canary Islands, Madeiran archipelago & Ilhas Selvagens.

The TSC of the BOU have concluded that the proposed Grant's Storm-petrel 'is provisionally included in *O. castro* pending further study and taxonomic description' (Sangster *et al.* 2012).

Other names: Madeiran Storm-petrel, Harcourt's Storm-petrel.

**Edward William Vernon Harcourt** (1825-1891), naturalist and MP for Oxford from 1878 to 1885.

**Peter J. Grant** (1943-1990), English ornithologist, one time Chairman of the BBRC, author of 'Gulls, an Identification Guide' and co-author of 'The New Approach to Identification' and the 'Collins Bird Guide'.

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## Monteiro's Storm-petrel

*Oceanodroma monteiroi* [Bolton *et al.* 2008].

Breeding: Baixo & Praia (islets off Graciosa, Azores).

Non-breeding: Probably remains close to the breeding areas.

Luis Rocha Monteiro (1962-1999), Portuguese scientist and researcher at the University of the Azores.

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**Smith, A.L. et al.** 2007. Global phylogeny of the Band-rumped Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma castro*; Procellariiformes: Hydrobatidae). *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 43(3): 755-773.

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## Cape Verde Storm-petrel

*Oceanodroma jabejabe* [Barboza du Bocage 1874].

Breeding: Cape Verde Islands.

Non-breeding: Not known.

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## **Swinhoe's Storm-petrel**

***Oceanodroma monorhis*** [Swinhoe 1867, near Amoy, China].

Breeding: Islands off N Kyushu & W Honshu (Japan), Korea and Russian islands in the Sea of Japan.  
Non-breeding: S & W to Indian Ocean and some to N Atlantic.

**Robert Swinhoe** (1836-1877), Anglo-Indian diplomat and naturalist.

1st WP Record: 13th January 1958. North Beach, Eilat, Israel. Found dead (**Shirihai, H.** 1996. *The Birds of Israel*. Academic Press).

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### Leach's Storm-petrel

***Oceanodroma leucorhoa*** [Vieillot 1818, maritime parts of Picardy, France].

[*O.l. leucorhoa*] Breeding: NE Japan N & E thru Kuril & Aleutian Islands to S Alaska and SE to C California and NE USA & E Canada E to Iceland, Faroes, NW Ireland, N Scotland & NW Norway.

[*O.l. chapmani*] Breeding: San Benito & Islas Coronados (off W coast Baja California).

Non-breeding: Tropical Atlantic and tropical C & E Pacific.

Other names: Chapman's Storm-Petrel (*chapmani*), San Benito Storm Petrel (*chapmani*).

**William Elford Leach** (1790-1836), British zoologist with a particular interest in entomology and malacology and one time assistant keeper of the natural history department at the British Museum.

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## Leach's type Storm-petrels on Guadalupe Island

### Townsend's Storm-petrel

***Oceanodroma socorroensis*** [Townsend 1890].

Summer breeder on Guadalupe Island (off W Mexico). Non-breeding: E Pacific Ocean S to 10°N and N to S California.

Other name: Socorro Storm-petrel.

### Ainley's Storm-petrel

***Oceanodroma cheimomnestes*** [Ainley 1980].

Winter breeder on Guadalupe Island (off W Mexico). Non-breeding: S to the Galápagos Islands.

Other name: Winter Storm-petrel.

Both previously treated as subspecies of Leach's Storm-petrel.

**Ainley, D.G.** 1980. Geographic variation in Leach's Storm-petrel. *The Auk* 97(4): 837-853.

**Ainley, D.G.** 1983. Further notes on variation in Leach's Storm-Petrel. *The Auk* 100: 230-233.

**Bourne, W.R.P. & Jehl, J.R.** 1982. Variation and nomenclature of Leach's Storm-Petrels. *The Auk* 99(4): 793-797.

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### Markham's Storm-petrel

***Oceanodroma markhami*** [Salvin 1883, coast of Peru in position 19° 40' S, 75° W].

Breeding: Paracas peninsula (S Peru).

Non-breeding: SE Pacific.

Other name: Sooty Storm-petrel.

**Sir Clements Robert Markham** (1830-1916), English explorer and one time Secretary and President of the Royal Geographic Society.

**Flood, R.L.** 2009. 'All-dark' *Oceanodroma* storm-petrels in the Atlantic and neighbouring seas. *British Birds* 102(7): 365-385 (376).

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### Tristram's Storm-petrel

***Oceanodroma tristrami*** [Salvin 1896, Sendai Bay, Honshu, Japan].

Breeding: Nihoa, Laysan, Pearl & Hermes Reefs (NW Hawaiian Islands) and probably Izu Islands & Bonin or Ogasawara Islands (Japan region).

Non-breeding: Seas between Japan and Hawaii.

Other name: Sooty Storm-petrel.

**The Reverend Henry Baker Tristram FRS** (1822-1906), canon of Durham cathedral, traveller, archaeologist, naturalist and antiquarian.

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- Willett, G.** 1919. Notes on the nesting of two little-known species of petrel. *The Condor* 21(2): 60-61.

### Black Storm-petrel

***Oceanodroma melania*** [Bonaparte 1854, coast of California].

Breeding: Islas San Benito and islets in Islas Coronados (off W coast Baja California), San Felipe Island, Cardinosa Island, Little Cardinosa island & Isla San Luis (Gulf of California), Santa Barbara Island & Sutil Rock and islands in the Channel Islands (off S California).

Non-breeding: Gulf of Panama & E Pacific.

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- Flood, R.L.** 2009. 'All-dark' *Oceanodroma* storm-petrels in the Atlantic and neighbouring seas. *British Birds* 102(7): 365-385 (376).
- Force, M.** 1997. Comments on 'The Chalice petrel'. *British Birds* 90(8): 339-342 (339).
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- Jarrett, B.** 2004. Avifauna of the Eastern tropical Pacific. *Alula* 10(3): 90-93 (90).

### Guadalupe Storm-petrel

***Oceanodroma macrodactyla*** [Bryant 1887].

Breeding: Formerly Guadalupe Island (off W Mexico). Apparently extinct by 1912 following the introduction of feral cats to the island, which decimated the population. This was compounded by the presence of goats foraging around the nesting area. An extensive search of its historic breeding grounds in 2000 failed to find any birds or evidence of recent breeding.

Non-breeding: Not known.

- Carlton, J.T. et al.** 1999. Historical extinctions in the sea. *Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics* 30: 515-538.
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### **Matsudaira's Storm-petrel**

- Oceanodroma matsudairae*** [Nagamichi Kuroda 1922, Sagami Bay, Honshu, Japan].  
Breeding: Kita-iwo-jima & Minami-iwo-jima (Volcano Islands, Japan region).  
Non-breeding: S & W to Indonesia, Timor Sea & N Indian Ocean.  
**Yorikatsu, Viscount Matsudaira** (1876-1945), Japanese ornithologist who collected the type specimen.
- Aguon, C.F. & Beck, R.E.** 1983. A Matsudaira's Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma matsudairae*) on Guam. *Elepaio* 44: 66.
- Bailey, R.S. et al.** 1968. Storm-petrels *Oceanodroma* spp. in the Indian Ocean. *Ibis* 110(1): 27-34.
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- Cheshire, N.** 2010. Procellariiformes observed around Papua New Guinea including the Bismarck Archipelago from 1985 to 2007. *South Australian Ornithologist* 36(1-2): 9-24 (21).
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- Wiles, G.J. et al.** 2000. Noteworthy Bird Records for Micronesia, with a Summary of Raptor Sightings in the Mariana Islands, 1988-1999. *Micronesica* 32(2): 257-284 (259).

### **Ashy Storm-petrel**

- Oceanodroma homochroa*** [Coues 1864, Farallon Islands, California].  
Breeding: Farallon Islands (off San Francisco), San Miguel Island, Santa Cruz & Anacapa (Channel Islands, S California), San Clemente (S California) & Islas Coronados (off W coast Baja California).  
Non-breeding: Generally remains close to breeding areas with some N dispersal.
- Adams, J. & Takekawa, J.Y.** 2008. At-sea distribution of radio-marked Ashy Storm-Petrels *Oceanodroma homochroa* captured on the California Channel Islands. *Marine Ornithology* 36: 9-17.
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### Hornby's Storm-petrel

***Oceanodroma hornbyi*** [G.R. Gray 1854, west coast of South America].

Breeding: Not known. Probably the Atacama Desert in Peru & N Chile.

Non-breeding: Ecuador S to C Chile.

Other name: Ringed Storm-petrel.

**Admiral Sir Geoffrey Phipps Hornby** (1785-1867), British commander-in-chief in the Pacific between 1847 and 1850.

- Mills, E.L.** 1968. Observations of the Ringed Storm-Petrel off the north-west coast of South America. *The Condor* 70(1): 87-88.
- Pyle, P. et al.** 2006. First Record of Ringed Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma hornbyi*) for North America. *North American Birds* 60(1): 162-163.
- Tobias, J.A. et al.** 2006. Lost and found: a gap analysis for the Neotropical avifauna. *Neotropical Birding* 1: 4-22 (16).

### Fork-tailed Storm-petrel

***Oceanodroma furcata*** [Gmelin 1789, icy seas between America and Asia].

[*O.f. furcata*] Breeding: N Kuril Islands, Commander Islands & Aleutian Islands.

[*O.f. plumbea*] Breeding: Alaska S to N California.

Non-breeding: Bering Sea & N Pacific.

Other name: Grey Storm-petrel.

- Boersma, P.D. & Parrish, J.K.** 1998. Flexible Growth Rates in Fork-Tailed Storm-Petrels: A Response to Environmental Variability. *The Auk* 115(1): 67-75.
- Boersma, P.D. & Wheelwright, N.T.** 1979. Egg neglect in the Procellariiformes: reproductive adaptations in the Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel. *The Condor* 81: 157-165.
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- Stallcup, R.** 1990. Life in the California Current. *Birding XXII*(6): 272-275 (figure 2, p. 274).
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