

NOTES

TWO NEW BIRD RECORDS FOR GUAM

Larus ridibundus—BLACK-HEADED GULL

On 26 January 1978, Wildlife Biologists Ronald D. Strong and myself observed and photographed three immature Black-headed Gulls on Agana Bay, Guam. The birds were present in Alupang Cove, Agana Bay, for a period of six weeks until the second week of March, 1978, when they disappeared. Owen (1977a) described the immature plumage of this species and noted that Black-headed Gulls have over-wintered for the past 3 years in Palau. The present observations represent the first time any gull (Subfamily Larinae) has ever been sighted on Guam and the first record of Black-headed Gulls in the Marianas (Baker, 1951; Owen, 1977b). Photographs are currently on file with the Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources, Department of Agriculture, Mangilao, Guam.

Limosa limosa—BLACK-TAILED GODWIT

This species has previously been reported from the Philippines (Dupont, 1971), in Palau (Owen, 1977b), and in Yap (Pratt et al., 1977). On 17 April 1978, I observed and photographed a pair of Black-tailed Godwits on Agana Bay, Guam. The birds remain present on Guam as of May 1978. One bird showed the male characteristics of a reddish chestnut coloration on the head and neck, typical of the male breeding plumage of *Limosa* species. The birds foraged in close proximity to each other suggesting the possibility that the pair was mated. Photographs are currently on file with the Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources, Department of Agriculture, Mangilao, Guam.

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- #### A FRANKLINS GULL FROM THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
- On 10 June 1975 I sighted an adult Franklins Gull (*Larus pipixan*) at the dock at Majuro, Marshall Islands. It was in typical nuptial plumage and appeared to be in good health. The gull was observed flying around the ships at the dock and resting on the water and beach near the dock. A photograph was taken of the gull by Mike Hill, then a Peace Corps Volunteer at Majuro, using a 400 mm lens. This slide was sent to the United States National Museum where identification was confirmed by Dr. George Watson (pers. comm.).
- This appears to be the first record of the Franklins Gull from the Marshall Islands and Micronesia. It also appears to be the westernmost observation of *L. pipixan* in the Pacific Ocean. Previously, the Franklins Gull has been recorded from the Hawaiian (Clapp and Woodward, 1968; King, 1959), Line (Clapp, 1968), and Marquesas Islands (King, 1959).
- Two other species of gulls are recorded from Micronesia: the Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) from the Marianas (Baker, 1951:54) and the Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*) from Palau (Owen, 1977:60) and Guam (Jenkins, 1978). These latter two records are from western Micronesia where influence from the Asian mainland would be greatest. The Black-headed Gull could have reached Palau by flying the 500 or so miles which separates it from the Philippines (Mindanao). The Herring Gull could have reached Saipan by moving southward through the Bonins where it is a regular winter visitant (King, 1967:68). The distance between Majuro and Costa Rica, which is part of the Franklins Gull wintering territory, is approximately 7000 statute miles. They are both approximately at the same latitude.
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