

Great Shearwater. At sea, 3' SW of the Bishop Rock, Isles of Scilly. 8th August 2009.  
Photo: Ashley Fisher.



# List of Shearwaters 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 2018 & 2019 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 Ashley Fisher ([www.scillypelagics.com](http://www.scillypelagics.com)) for the cover images. All images © the photographer.

Joe Hobbs

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The general order of species follows the International Ornithologists' Union World Bird List (**Gill, F. & Donsker, D.** (eds.) 2017. IOC World Bird List. Available from: <http://www.worldbirdnames.org/> [version 7.3 accessed August 2017]).

## Version

Version 1.10 (January 2018).

## Cover

Main image: Great Shearwater. At sea 3' SW of the Bishop Rock, Isles of Scilly. 8th August 2009. Picture by Ashley Fisher.

Vignette: Sooty Shearwater. At sea off the Isles of Scilly. 14th August 2009. Picture by Ashley Fisher.

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### **Streaked Shearwater**

- Calonectris leucomelas*** [Temminck 1835, seas of Japan and Nagasaki Bay].  
Breeding: Islands off Hokkaido (N Japan) and S thru Izu Islands, Daito Islands, Ryukyu & Senkoku group (Japan region, NW Pacific) to Pescadores Island (Taiwan) and islands off E China, Korea & SE Russia.  
Non-breeding: South China Sea and seas around Philippines, Indonesia & New Guinea S to N Australia.  
Other names: White-faced Shearwater, White-fronted Shearwater, Streak-headed Shearwater.  
1st WP Record: 21st June 1992. Off the North Beach, Eilat, Gulf of Aqaba, Israel. John Morgan and Hadoram Shirihai, two or possibly three individuals that remained until the 18th September at least (Morgan & Shirihai 1992).
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### Scopoli's Shearwater

***Calonectris diomedea*** [Scopoli 1769, no locality; Tremiti Islands, Adriatic Sea].

Breeding: Balearic Islands, Malta, Sardinia and islands off France, Algeria, Tunisia, Italy, Greece & Croatia.

Non-breeding: N & S Atlantic W to the coast of North America and S to the coast of Namibia & South Africa and perhaps Indian Ocean.

**Giovanni Antonio Scopoli**, aka Johannes Antonius Scopoli (1723-1788), Austro-Italian physician and naturalist.

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## **Cory's Shearwater**

***Calonectris borealis*** [Cory 1881].

Breeding: Berlengas Islands (off WC Portugal), Azores & Canary Islands and Almeria (Spain) & Chafarinas Islands (Alboran Sea off the N coast of Morocco).

Non-breeding: N & S Atlantic to W Indian Ocean.

**Charles Barney Cory** (1857-1921), American ornithologist and one of the founders of the American Ornithologists' Union.

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## Cape Verde Shearwater

*Calonectris edwardsii* [Oustalet 1883].

Breeding: Cape Verde Islands.

Non-breeding: Not fully established although recorded off the E coast of USA.

**Alphonse Milne-Edwards** (1835-1900), French mammalogist, ornithologist and carcinologist.

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## Wedge-tailed Shearwater

***Ardenna pacifica*** [Gmelin 1789, Pacific Ocean].

Breeding: Madagascar, Seychelles and vicinity E to W Australia (Indian Ocean) and Japan S to E Australia and E to Marquesas Islands (French Polynesia) and Pitcairn (C Pacific) and Revillagigedo Islands (off W Mexico).

Non-breeding: Some populations largely sedentary others at extreme N & S limits of range probably move towards tropical regions in Pacific and Indian oceans.

Previously included in the genus *Puffinus*.

1st WP Record: 10th March 1988. Off Port Said, Egypt (Everett 1992). Note: this record is under examination by the Egyptian Ornithological Rarities Committee (Jiguet *et al.* 2012).

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### **Buller's Shearwater**

***Ardenna bulleri*** [Salvin 1888, New Zealand].

Breeding: Poor Knights Island (off North Island, New Zealand).

Non-breeding: Disperses over much of the Pacific.

Other names: Grey-backed Shearwater, New Zealand Shearwater.

Previously included in the genus *Puffinus*.

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## Sooty Shearwater

***Ardenna grisea*** [Gmelin 1789, Southern Hemisphere between 35° S and 50° S = New Zealand].  
Breeding: S Chile & Falkland Islands and islands off SE Australia & New Zealand.  
Non-breeding: Disperses widely throughout five of the Seven Seas to the N & S Atlantic, Indian Ocean and N & S Pacific.  
Other name: Sombre Shearwater.  
Previously included in the genus *Puffinus*.

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### Short-tailed Shearwater

***Ardenna tenuirostris*** [Temminck 1835, seas N of Japan and shores of Korea].

Breeding: SE Australia & Tasmania.

Non-breeding: Throughout S & N Pacific.

Other names: Slender-billed Shearwater, Tasmanian Muttonbird.

Previously included in the genus *Puffinus*.

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### **Pink-footed Shearwater**

***Ardenna creatopus*** [Coues 1864, San Nicolas Island, California].

Breeding: Más a Tierra & Santa Clara (Juan Fernandez Islands) and Mocha Island (off WC Chile).

Non-breeding: W North America N as far as British Columbia.

Previously included in the genus *Puffinus*.

**Becker, P.H.** 2000. Mercury levels in pink-footed shearwaters (*Puffinus creatopus*) breeding on Mocha Island, Chile. *Ornitologia Neotropical* 11: 165-168.

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### **Flesh-footed Shearwater**

- Ardenna carneipes*** [Gould 1844, small islands off Cape Leeuwin, Western Australia].  
St Paul Island (S Indian Ocean) and Recherche archipelago W to Cape Leeuwin and off Cape Hamelin (W Australia) and Lord Howe Island (Tasman Sea, Australia region) and islands off North Island, New Zealand.  
Non-breeding: N to waters off Japan and Indian Ocean W to Arabian Sea  
Other name: Fleshy-footed Shearwater, Pale-footed Shearwater, Big Muttonbird, Lord Howe Island Muttonbird.  
Previously included in the genus *Puffinus*.  
1st WP Record: 15th August 1980. Off the North Beach, Eilat, Gulf of Aqaba, Israel (**Shirihai, H.** 1996. *The Birds of Israel*. Academic Press).
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## Great Shearwater

***Ardenna gravis*** [O'Reilly 1818, Cape Farewell and Staten Hook to Newfoundland].

Breeding: Nightingale Island & Inaccessible Island (Tristan da Cunha group), Gough Island (S Atlantic) & Kidney Island (Falkland Islands).

Non-breeding: Throughout N & S Atlantic.

Previously included in the genus *Puffinus*.

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- Jackson, J.** 2001. Wales - Way out west. *Alula* 7(2): 62-67.
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- Voous, K.H. & Wattel, J.** 1963. Distribution and migration of the Greater Shearwater. *Ardea* 51: 143-157.
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- Woods, R.W.** 1970. Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis* breeding in the Falkland Islands. *Ibis* 112(2): 259-260.

### **Christmas Island Shearwater**

*Puffinus nativitatis* [Streets 1877, Christmas Island, Pacific Ocean].

Breeding: Kaula (off Niihau, Hawaii), Moku Manu (off Oahu, Hawaii) and Nihoa, French Frigate Shoals, Lisianski, Laysan, the Pearl and Hermes Reef, Midway Island & Kure (NW Hawaiian Islands), Johnston Atoll (C Pacific), Ducie & Oeno (Pitcarin group), Sala-y-Gómez & Easter Island (SE Pacific) and the Marquesas Islands, Tuamotu, Line Islands, Phoenix Islands & Austral Islands (French Polynesia).

Non-breeding: Not fully established however some populations are largely sedentary and some presumed to disperse over tropical and subtropical Pacific.

Other name: Christmas Shearwater.



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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 (18).
- Crockett, D.E.** 1977. First record of the Christmas Island Shearwater in New Zealand. *Notornis* 24: 285-286.
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## **Manx Shearwater**

***Puffinus puffinus*** [Brünnich 1764, Faroes and Norway].

Breeding: Massachusetts & Gulf of Maine N to Labrador, Gulf of St. Lawrence & Newfoundland and S Iceland S thru Faroe Islands, Ireland & Britain to NW France and Azores thru Madeira & Desertas Islands to Canary Islands.

Non-breeding: Disperses to S Atlantic, mostly to the E coast of South America.

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## Yelkouan Shearwater

*Puffinus yelkouan* [Acerbi 1827, the Bosphorus, opposite Bujukdere, Turkey].

Breeding: Islands off France, Italy, Malta, Greece, Albania, Croatia & Turkey and possibly islands off Bulgaria & Tunisia.

Non-breeding: Disperses mainly into Black Sea and sporadically to W Mediterranean.

Other name: Levantine Shearwater.

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## Balearic Shearwater

*Puffinus mauretanicus* [Lowe 1921].

Breeding: Formentera & surrounding islets, small islets off Mallorca, Cabrera, Menorca & Ibiza (all Balearic Islands).

Non-breeding: W Mediterranean, coasts off NW Africa & Portugal, Bay of Biscay, SW Ireland & SW Britain.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 as conspecific with Yelkouan Shearwater.

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## **Bryan's Shearwater**

***Puffinus bryani*** [Pyle, Welsh & Fleischer 2011, Midway Atoll, N Pacific Ocean].

Breeding: Not fully established, probably includes Bonin (or Ogasawara) Islands (Japan region, NW Pacific) and possibly in the NW Hawaiian islands.

Non-breeding: Not known.

A small Shearwater collected in a burrow on Sand Island, Midway Atoll on the 18th February 1963 by A.B. Amerson Jr. was identified as a Little Shearwater. It was subsequently examined by Peter Pyle in 2011, who concluded that the original identification was incorrect and the specimen represented a species new to science, Bryan's Shearwater.

In addition, Kazuto Kawakami, Masaki Eda, Kazuo Horikoshi, Hajime Suzuki, Hayato Chiba and Takashi Hiraoka have found six specimens of a small *Puffinus* shearwater since 1997 that is morphologically similar to Bryan's Shearwater on the Bonin (or Ogasawara) Islands in the north-western Pacific. They undertook genetic examinations of these samples, which has confirmed they are all Bryan's Shearwater, the same species as that found by Amerson Jr. on Sand Island in 1963 (Kawakami *et al.* 2012).

**Edwin Horace Bryan** (1898-1985), American naturalist and one time curator of collections at the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum in Honolulu from 1919 to 1968.

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### **Black-vented Shearwater**

***Puffinus opisthomelas*** [Coues 1864, Cape San Lucas, Baja California].

Breeding: Isla de Guadalupe, Islas San Benito & Isla Natividad and other islands off and in Baja California (W Mexico).

Non-breeding: Disperses N to C California and occasionally to British Columbia.

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### **Townsend's Shearwater**

***Puffinus auricularis*** [C.H. Townsend 1890, Clarión Island, Revillagigedo Group, Mexico].

Breeding: Socorro Island (Revillagigedo Islands, off W Mexico).

Non-breeding: Disperses N to S Baja California and S to El Salvador.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 to be polytypic with races *auricularis* and *newelli*. Race *newelli* here treated as a full species, Newell's Shearwater.

**Charles Haskins Townsend** (1859-1944), American naturalist who worked for many years with the US Fish Commission. He discovered the species in 1889 and described it the following year.

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- Bourne, W.R.P.** 1988. The Yelkouan Shearwater *Puffinus (puffinus?) yelkouan*. *British Birds* 81(7): 306-319.
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- Marinez-Gomez, J.E. & Jocabson, J.K.** 2004. The conservation status of Townsend's shearwater (*Puffinus auricularis auricularis*). *Biological Conservation* 116(1): 35-47.
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## **Newell's Shearwater**

*Puffinus newelli* [Henshaw 1900].

Breeding: Kauai, Molokai, Hawaii and probably Oahu, Maui & Lanai (SE Hawaiian Islands).

Non-breeding: Not fully established, possibly moves south and east to the waters of the Equatorial Counter Current and occurs year round in E tropical Pacific.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 as a race of Townsend's Shearwater.

Other names: Hawaiian Shearwater, Ao.

**Brother Matthias Newell** (1854-1939), American missionary in Hawaii from 1886 to 1924. In 1894 native Hawaiians brought him several live shearwaters. Later, one of them became the type specimen for this species described by Henshaw, who named it after Brother Newell.

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- Marinez-Gomez, J.E.** 2015. Phylogenetic placement of the critically endangered Townsend's Shearwater (*Puffinus auricularis auricularis*): evidence for its conspecific status with Newell's Shearwater (*Puffinus a. newelli*) and a mismatch between genetic and phenotypic differentiation. *Journal of Ornithology* DOI: 10.1007/s10336-015-1189-2.



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## Rapa Shearwater

***Puffinus myrtae*** [Bourne 1959].

Breeding: Islets off Rapa (Bass Islands, Austral Islands group, S French Polynesia) and possibly on Marotiri (south of Rapa).

Non-breeding: Not fully established.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 as a race of Little Shearwater.

Other name: Kaki Kaki.

**Bourne, W.R.P.** 1959. A new Little Shearwater from the Tubau Islands: *Puffinus assimilis myrtae* subsp. nov. *Emu* 59: 212-214.

**Marinez-Gomez, J.E.** 2015. Phylogenetic placement of the critically endangered Townsend's Shearwater (*Puffinus auricularis auricularis*): evidence for its conspecific status with Newell's Shearwater (*Puffinus a. newelli*) and a mismatch between genetic and phenotypic differentiation. *Journal of Ornithology* DOI: 10.1007/s10336-015-1189-2.

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## Fluttering Shearwater

***Puffinus gavia*** [J.R. Forster 1844, Queen Charlotte Sound, New Zealand].

Breeding: Three Kings group, Moturoa group, Motuharakeke (Cavalli Islands), NW Chickens, Bream Islands, Mokohinau group, Channel Island, Mercury group, Ruamahuanui (Aldermen group) & Trio Islands and other islands in the Cook Strait (all North Island, New Zealand).

Non-breeding: Disperses to seas around New Zealand, Tasman Sea area & S Australia.

Other names: Brown-beaked Shearwater, Forster's Shearwater.

**Johann Reinhold Forster** (1729-1798), a clergyman from Danzig who accompanied Cook as the naturalist on his second world voyage during 1772 and 1773.

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### Hutton's Shearwater

***Puffinus huttoni*** [Mathews 1912, Snares Island].

Breeding: Seaward Kaikoura Mountain Range (NE South Island, New Zealand).

Non-breeding: W to seas off SE Australia & Tasmania.

Historically some colonies have been wiped out by introduced pigs, so a protected artificial colony has been established near the town of Kaikoura.

Other name: Kaikoura tītī tītī.

**Capt. Frederick Wollaston Hutton FRS** (1836-1905), English zoologist, geologist and one time Royal Welsh Fusilier who settled in New Zealand. The Hutton Memorial Medal and Reserch Fund, a science award in New Zealand, is named in his honour.

- Bourne, W.R.P.** 1988. The Yelkouan Shearwater *Puffinus (puffinus?) yelkouan*. *British Birds* 81(7): 306-319.
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## **Audubon's Shearwater**

***Puffinus lherminieri*** [Lesson 1839, Antilles].

[*P.l. lherminieri*] Breeding: Bermuda, cays around Little Abaco & possibly E Andros (Bahamas), Saba Key, Virgin Islands, Guadeloupe, La Désirade and some other Leeward Islands and Martinique, Rocher du Diamant, Barbados and some other Windward Islands and islets off Porto Rico.

[*P.l. loyemilleri*] Breeding: Islets off the Caribbean coasts of Nicaragua & Panama and Islas los Roques (Venezuela).

Non-breeding: Some populations sedentary, others move N & NE in to the W Atlantic.

Treated by Onley & Scofield 2007 to include *Puffinus baroli boydi*.

**John James Audubon** (1785-1851), father of American ornithology and author of the monumental 'Birds of America' in four volumes.

**Félix Louis L'Herminier** (1779-1833), French pharmacist and naturalist who studied the flora and fauna of Guadeloupe between 1798 and 1829 and / or his son Ferdinand Joseph L'Herminier (1802-1866), who worked with his father in Guadeloupe for three years.

**Baltz, M.E. et al.** 1998. New records of Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri*) breeding colonies in the Exuma Cays. *Bahamas Journal of Science* 6(1): 43-46.

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## Persian Shearwater

*Puffinus persicus* [Hume 1873].

[*P.p. persicus*] Breeding: Halaaniyaat Island (off SE Oman) and Socotra archipelago.

Non-breeding: Probably to the Gulf of Oman or perhaps further E towards India.

[*P.p. temptator*] Breeding: Moheli Island (Comoros, W Indian Ocean).

Non-breeding: Not well known.

A small group of Persian Shearwaters, not identified to subspecific level, were observed in the vicinity of Flat Top Bank, about 100' west of Darwin, Australia in October 2010.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 as races of Audubon's Shearwater.

Other name: Arabian Shearwater, Mohéli Shearwater (*temptator*).

1st WP Record: 22nd January 1985. Jaffa Port, Tel Aviv, Israel. Presumed same individual seen again at the same location between the 4th and 6th February (**Shirihai, H.** 1996. *The Birds of Israel*. Academic Press).

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### **Tropical Shearwater**

***Puffinus bailloni*** [Bonaparte 1857].

[*P.b. bailloni*] Mauritius, Europa Island (S Mozambique Channel), Réunion (Mascarene archipelago, W Indian Ocean) and Desroches (Seychelles).

[*P.b. dichrous*] Palau & Marianas Islands (NW Pacific), Nauru, Phoenix Islands & Line Islands (C Pacific), Samoa, Fiji, Tonga, Tahiti and Marquesas Islands (N French Polynesia) & Gambier Islands (Tuamotu archipelago, French Polynesia).

[*P.b. nicolae*] Cousin Island & Amirante Islands, Seychelles, the Maldives and Banks Islands (Indian Ocean).

[*P.b. colstoni*] Chagos archipelago & Aldabra Atoll (Indian Ocean).

[*P.b. gunax*] Vanuatu (SW Pacific).

Non-breeding: Not fully established, some populations probably sedentary.

The proposed form *polynesiae* is included with *P.b. dichrous*.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 as races of Audubon's Shearwater.

**Louis Antoine François Baillon** (1778-1855), French naturalist and collector. Baillon's Crake is also named for him.

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### Galapagos Shearwater

***Puffinus subalaris*** [Ridgway 1897].

Breeding: Islets off Santa Cruz, Española Island, Wenman Island, Champion Island & Indefatigable (all Galapagos Islands).

Non-breeding: Largely sedentary with some dispersal towards Central America.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 as a race of Audubon's Shearwater.

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### Bannerman's Shearwater

***Puffinus bannermani*** [Mathews & Iredale 1915].

Breeding: Volcano Island and Bonin (or Ogasawara) Islands (Japan region, NW Pacific).

Non-breeding: Off Japan and S thru NW Pacific to tropics.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 as a race of Audubon's Shearwater.

**Dr. David Armitage Bannerman** (1886-1979), British ornithologist who was on the staff at the British Museum. He co-authored numerous books including '*The Birds of the Atlantic Islands*' and was Chairman of the BOU between 1932 and 1935.

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### Heinroth's Shearwater

***Puffinus heinrothi*** [Reichenow 1919, Blanche Bay, New Britain].

Breeding: Bismarck archipelago, Arawa (Bougainville group) and Rendova & Kolombangara (Solomon Islands) and possibly New Britain.

Non-breeding: Not known, probably sedentary.

**Oskar August Heinroth** (1871-1945), German doctor and zoologist who the director of the Berlin Aquarium for over 30 years.

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## Little Shearwaters

### Little Shearwater

- Puffinus assimilis*** [Gould 1838, New South Wales = Norfolk Island].  
 [*P.a. assimilis*] Breeding: Philip Island & Nepean Island (Norfolk group, Tasman Sea, Australia region) and Lord Howe Island & Roach Island (Lord Howe group, Tasman Sea).  
 [*P.a. kermadecensis*] Breeding: Herald Island, Curtis Island & Macauley Islands (Kermadec Islands, SW Pacific).  
 [*P.a. haurakiensis*] Breeding: Island groups off the NE coast of North Island New Zealand.  
 [*P.a. tunneyi*] Breeding: Amsterdam Island & St. Paul Island (S Indian Ocean) and Houtman Abrolhos Group & Récherche archipelago (off SW Australia).

### Subantarctic Shearwater

- Puffinus elegans*** [Giglioli & Salvadori 1869]  
 Breeding: Star Keys & Little Mangere (Chatham Islands, New Zealand region), Antipodes Islands (New Zealand region) and Tristan da Cunha & Gough Island (S Atlantic).  
 Non-breeding: Not fully established.  
 Other name: Subantarctic Little Shearwater.

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## Macaronesian Shearwaters

### Barolo Shearwater

- Puffinus baroli*** [Bonaparte 1857].  
 Breeding: Azores, Madeira, Desertas, Ilhas Selvagens & Canary Islands.  
 Non-breeding: Not fully established.  
 Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 as a race of Little Shearwater.  
 Barolo Shearwater is named after the Italian estate of Carlo Tancredi Falletti and / or Juliette Victorine Colbert di Maulévrier, the Marchese and Marchesa di Barolo.

## Boyd's Shearwater

*Puffinus boydi* [Mathews 1912].

Breeding: Cape Verde Islands.

Non-breeding: Not fully established.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1992 as a race of Little Shearwater.

Treated by Onley & Scofield 2007 as a race of Audubon's Shearwater.

Other name: Cape Verde Little Shearwater.

**Capt. Boyd Alexander** (1873-1910), British Army officer, explorer and ornithologist who collected in the Cape Verde Islands.

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