

**Lectotypification of the Subantarctic Diving Petrel  
*Pelecanoides urinatrix exsul* Salvin, 1896  
(Procellariiformes: Procellariidae)**

Authors: Tennyson, Alan J. D., Bond, Alexander L., Cooper, Joanne H.,  
and Fischer, Johannes H.

Source: Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club, 142(3) : 302-309

Published By: British Ornithologists' Club

URL: <https://doi.org/10.25226/bboc.v142i3.2022.a3>

---

The BioOne Digital Library (<https://bioone.org/>) provides worldwide distribution for more than 580 journals and eBooks from BioOne's community of over 150 nonprofit societies, research institutions, and university presses in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences. The BioOne Digital Library encompasses the flagship aggregation BioOne Complete (<https://bioone.org/subscribe>), the BioOne Complete Archive (<https://bioone.org/archive>), and the BioOne eBooks program offerings ESA eBook Collection (<https://bioone.org/esa-ebooks>) and CSIRO Publishing BioSelect Collection (<https://bioone.org/csiro-ebooks>).

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Digital Library, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at [www.bioone.org/terms-of-use](http://www.bioone.org/terms-of-use).

Usage of BioOne Digital Library content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non-commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

---

BioOne is an innovative nonprofit that sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

# Lectotypification of the Subantarctic Diving Petrel *Pelecanoides urinatrix exsul* Salvin, 1896 (Procellariiformes: Procellariidae)

by Alan J. D. Tennyson, Alexander L. Bond, Joanne H. Cooper & Johannes H. Fischer

Received 22 December 2021; revised 28 June 2022; published 6 September 2022

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:DE820255-51C2-4477-BD19-76AA9B6DB92F>

**SUMMARY.**—The description of the Subantarctic Diving Petrel *Pelecanoides urinatrix exsul* Salvin, 1896, creates confusion because the type series contains specimens of three different taxa. Here we nominate a lectotype, thereby fixing the identity of this taxon, and restrict its type locality to the Baie de l'Observatoire, La Grande Terre, Kerguelen Islands, Indian Ocean. This stabilises its taxonomy.

Diving petrels (genus *Pelecanoides*) comprise five species of small Southern Ocean Procellariiformes, which show limited morphological differentiation, thus complicating their identification (Fischer *et al.* 2018). The circumpolar and widespread Common Diving Petrel *P. urinatrix* is considered to number six subspecies: *P. u. urinatrix* (J. F. Gmelin, 1789); *P. u. berard* (Gaimard, 1823); *P. u. exsul* Salvin, 1896; *P. u. dacunhae* Nicoll, 1906; *P. u. copperingi* Mathews, 1912; and *P. u. chathamensis* Murphy & Harper, 1916 (Marchant & Higgins 1990, Dickinson & Remsen 2013).

The original description of *P. u. exsul* by Salvin (1896: 438) in the *Catalogue of the birds in the British Museum* diagnosed the taxon as a species, primarily based on the greyiness of the throat, flank and underwing feathers. Specifically, he stated: 'Adult. Similar to *P. urinatrix*, but the feathers of the sides and middle of the throat with a distinct subterminal grey bar; flanks mottled with grey, each feather with a grey shaft; under wing-coverts also grey, with white edges and dark shafts. Sexes alike. *Hab.* Southern Indian Ocean, from the Crozette Islands to Kerguelen Land'. This description was followed by a list of the 23 specimens that constituted the type series. However, the original description contains ambiguities: the type series consists of specimens from several widespread locations and the morphological description is too vague to define any diagnostic characters of the taxon.

Salvin's (1896) descriptions of the various *Pelecanoides* species did not note any of the diagnostic bill-shape characters of *P. urinatrix*, including the posteriorly sited nostril septa later diagnosed by Murphy & Harper (1921). In addition, Salvin's description for *P. u. exsul* also failed to mention the relatively short wing compared to *P. u. urinatrix* (see Marchant & Higgins 1990; means of sexed birds from breeding colonies 119.6–123.9 mm for *P. u. exsul*, and 127.0–131.8 mm for *P. u. urinatrix*).

Murphy & Harper (1921: 544) fixed the type locality for *P. u. exsul* as the Kerguelen Islands and published an updated diagnosis for the taxon. They primarily noted minor differences between *P. u. exsul* and other subspecies of *P. urinatrix* in bill shape (i.e., more converging bill sides of *P. u. exsul*) and a greater amount of grey on the lower throat of *P. u. exsul*.

Warren (1966: 94) identified 15 of the 23 syntypes of *P. u. exsul* listed by Salvin, and provided details of an adult male from the Kerguelen Islands (Natural History Museum, Tring [NHMUK 1880.11.18.656]). She noted that the 'locality' for the taxon was originally defined as 'southern Indian Ocean' but had been 'restricted to Kerguelen Island' by Murphy & Harper (1921). NHMUK 1880.11.18.656 was subsequently placed in one of the

type collection cabinets at Tring, and labelled 'TYPE'. However, as it was not formally designated as a lectotype (Warren specifically referred to it as a syntype and mentioned 'fourteen other syntypes'), it maintained the same nomenclatorial status as all of the other specimens in the type series of *P. u. exsul* (Arts. 72.4.7 and 74.5; ICZN 1999).

Both Salvin (1896) and Murphy & Harper (1921) considered *P. exsul* to be a species, separate from *P. urinatrix*. Today *P. u. exsul* is commonly recognised subspecifically, but its distinctiveness has been questioned (e.g., see Clancey 1981, Norman & Brown 1987). Marchant & Higgins (1990) concluded that the supposedly diagnostic features of *P. u. exsul* noted by Salvin (1896) and Murphy & Harper (1921) occurred in some individuals of other subspecies of *P. urinatrix*, which leaves no clear morphologically diagnosable features for *P. u. exsul*. However, DNA work (using the mitochondrial cytochrome *b* gene) provided support for the distinctiveness of *P. u. exsul* (Grosser *et al.* 2021). Yet, this research did not clearly support other commonly recognised subspecies of *P. urinatrix*. Hence, the taxonomy of *P. urinatrix sensu lato* remains unsettled and is in need of re-examination.

To clarify the identity of *P. u. exsul* and help resolve ongoing confusion concerning the validity of the various subspecies of *P. urinatrix*, we relocated and re-examined the syntypes of *Pelecanoides u. exsul* at NHMUK. Although Salvin (1896) did not provide registration numbers for any of the specimens that he listed, he did provide sufficient information (some collection data and a unique letter for each specimen) to identify almost all of the syntype series. Salvin's letters between 'a' and 'w' were located on labels of 15/23 of these specimens. Seven other specimens were identified using their collection data (Table 1). Additionally, an unattached, isolated label at NHMUK was subsequently linked to a further syntype that was received by the South Australian Museum, Adelaide (SAMA) in 1982 on exchange from NHMUK (P. Horton *in litt.* 2019). All of the specimens were measured to the nearest 0.1 mm using the methods described in Fischer *et al.* (2018): wing length; inner (RT1) and outer (RT6) tail feather length; culmen length; bill width at base; bill depth at base; arch length; head length; and tarsometatarsus length. In addition, we scored the position of the nostril septa (Fig. 1, see Fischer *et al.* 2018 and supporting materials) and the angle and shape of the mandibles (viewed dorsally and ventrally). We provide details of these specimens in Tables 1–3. Two of the 23 syntypes on Salvin's list could not be identified with a high level of certainty.

Our investigation (see Table 3, Figs. 1–3) indicates that the syntype series of *P. u. exsul* includes three different taxa: *P. u. urinatrix* (J. F. Gmelin, 1789), *P. u. exsul* Salvin, 1896, and South Georgia Diving Petrel *P. georgicus* Murphy & Harper, 1916. A syntype series consisting of more than one taxon can cause taxonomic confusion, therefore to stabilise the name *Pelecanoides urinatrix exsul* Salvin, 1896, here we designate NHMUK 1876.4.26.13 (female, collected 'Observatory Bay, Royal Sound', 'Kerguelen's Land' [= Baie de l'Observatoire, La Grande Terre, Kerguelen Islands] by A. E. Eaton, on 14 October 1874) as the lectotype of this taxon (Figs. 1A, 2) in accordance with the amended Art. 74.7.3 (ICZN 1999). No previous lectotypification has been made for this taxon.

We chose NHMUK 1876.4.26.13 as the lectotype because (a) it is from the Kerguelen archipelago, to which the type locality was restricted by Murphy & Harper (1921), and (b) it displays morphological features usually associated with *P. u. exsul*, i.e. posteriorly sited nostril septa, relatively short, converging mandible sides, and comparatively short wings (<125 mm). Selecting this lectotype aligns with Recommendation 74A of the Code (ICZN 1999). Whilst ten syntypes met the same basic selection criteria (Table 3), NHMUK 1876.4.26.13 is the only one that also has a collection date, a collector and its sex recorded, as well as an undamaged bill. This designation results in all of the other syntypes listed in Tables 1–3 becoming paralectotypes of *P. u. exsul*, irrespective as to their taxon they are recognised as.

TABLE 1

List of *Pelecanoides urinatrix exsul* Salvin, 1896, syntypes, including their NHMUK and SAMA registration numbers and other information from their specimen labels. The ‘Salvin letter’ is in bold and italics where it appears on a specimen’s label. Position of nostril septa from base / posterior end (posterior = 0%, anterior = 100%). Sex: M = male; F = female. ? = unclear. - = unknown. The designated lectotype is highlighted.

| Salvin (1896) letter            | NHMUK reg. no.               | Specimen type                     | Nostril septa | Sex | Collecting locality                                 | Collector; (P) = presented to museum  | Extra notes                                   |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----|---|---|---|
| <i>a</i>                        | 1891.6.18.107                | Skin                              | ?             | -   | Crozet Islands                                      | -   | ex Shelley Mus., S Africa no.10825            |
| <i>b</i>                        | 1893.3.20.3                  | Skin                              | 30%           | -   | Crozet Islands                                      | H. Saunders (P)   | Ex E. L. Layard                               |
| <i>c</i>                        | 1841.4.729                   | Skin                              | 30%           | -   | At sea, near Kerguelen Islands                      | Antarctic expedition/ Admiralty (P) <sup>1</sup>  | May 1840 <sup>1</sup>                         |
| <i>d</i>                        | 1841.4.731 (now SAMA B36415) | Skin                              | 30%           | M   | Kerguelen Islands                                   | Antarctic expedition/ HMS <i>Terror</i> <sup>1</sup>  | Original label detached and retained in NHMUK |
| <i>e</i>                        | 1841.4.730                   | Skin                              | 30%           | F   | Kerguelen Islands                                   | Antarctic expedition/ HMS <i>Terror</i> / Admiralty (P) <sup>1</sup>                                      |   |
| <i>f</i>                        | 1841.4.732                   | Skin                              | ?30%          | -   | Kerguelen Islands                                   | J.R.[presumably James Clark Ross on HMS <i>Erebus</i> ], Antarctic expedition/ Admiralty (P) <sup>1</sup> |   |
| <i>g</i>                        | 1841.4.728                   | Skin                              | ?             | -   | Christmas Harbour, Kerguelen Islands                | Antarctic expedition/ Admiralty (P) <sup>1</sup>  | 20 July <sup>1</sup>                          |
| <i>h</i>                        | 1890.12.13.18                | Skin                              | 30%           | -   | On board ship, Christmas Harbour, Kerguelen Islands | Mc’Cormick [Robert McCormick on HMS <i>Erebus</i> ] (P) <sup>1</sup>                                      | 8 June 1840 <sup>1</sup>                      |
| <i>i</i>                        | 1880.11.18.660               | Skin                              | ?30%          | M   | Christmas Harbour, Kerguelen Islands                | <i>Challenger</i> expedition <sup>2</sup>   |   |
| <i>j</i>                        | 1880.11.18.656               | Skin                              | ?30%          | M   | Kerguelen Islands                                   | <i>Challenger</i> expedition <sup>2</sup>   |   |
| <i>k</i>                        | 1880.11.18.655               | Skin                              | 30%           | F   | Kerguelen Islands                                   | <i>Challenger</i> expedition <sup>2</sup>   |   |
| <i>l</i>                        | 1880.11.18.657               | Skin                              | 30%           | F   | Kerguelen Islands                                   | <i>Challenger</i> expedition <sup>2</sup>   |   |
| <i>m</i>                        | 1880.11.18.661               | Skin                              | 50%           | -   | Kerguelen Islands                                   | <i>Challenger</i> expedition <sup>2</sup>   | Downy chick                                   |
| <i>o</i>                        | 1880.11.18.659               | Skin                              | 30%           | M   | Betsy Cove, Kerguelen Islands                       | <i>Challenger</i> expedition <sup>2</sup>   | Damaged bill                                  |
| <i>n</i>                        | 1880.11.18.658               | Skin                              | 30%           | M   | Betsy Cove, Kerguelen Islands                       | <i>Challenger</i> expedition <sup>2</sup>   | Jan 1874                                      |
| <i>p</i>                        | 1876.4.26.12                 | Skin                              | 30%           | M   | Observatory Bay, Kerguelen Islands                  | A. E. Eaton <sup>3</sup>  |   |
| <i>q</i>                        | 1876.4.26.13                 | Skin                              | 30%           | F   | Observatory Bay, Kerguelen Islands                  | A. E. Eaton <sup>3</sup>  | 14 Oct 1874 <sup>3</sup>                      |
| <i>r</i>                        | 1875.7.2.25                  | Skin                              | 30%           | -   | New Zealand   | -   | ex New Zealand Colonial Museum [Wellington]   |
| <i>s</i>                        | 1842.6.11.13                 | Skin                              | ?             | -   | Auckland Islands                                    | Lieut. A. Smith [presume Alexander Smith on HMS <i>Erebus</i> ] <sup>1</sup>                              | November <sup>1</sup>                         |
| <i>t</i> or <i>u</i>            | 1884.2.29.21 <sup>4</sup>    | Complete skeleton                 | -             | -   | -   | <i>Challenger</i> expedition <sup>2</sup>   |   |
| <i>t</i> or <i>u</i> (possibly) | S/2001.50.61 <sup>5</sup>    | Complete skeleton                 | 30%           | -   | -   | -   |   |
| <i>v</i> (possibly)             | S/2001.50.63 <sup>5</sup>    | Sternum, pectoral bones, mandible | -             | -   | -   | -   |   |

| Salvin (1896) letter | NH Muk reg. no.           | Specimen type | Nostril septa | Sex | Collecting locality | Collector; (P) = presented to museum                        | Extra notes |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----|---------------------|---|-------------|
| w                    | 1884.2.29.22 <sup>4</sup> | Skull         | -             | -   | -                   | <i>Challenger</i> expedition/<br>Admiralty (P) <sup>2</sup> |             |

<sup>1</sup>During the UK Admiralty’s 1839–43 Antarctic expedition, HMS *Erebus* first anchored at the Kerguelen Islands on 12 May 1840 and HMS *Terror* joined her the following day; both ships left Kerguelen on 20 July 1840 (Ross 1847). The same expedition visited the Auckland Islands from 20 November to 12 December 1840 (Ross 1847).

<sup>2</sup>The UK HMS *Challenger* oceanographic expedition visited the Kerguelen Islands from 6 January to 1 February 1874 (Thomson & Murray 1911).

<sup>3</sup>Alfred Edwin Eaton was part of the UK Transit of Venus expedition to the Kerguelen Islands between 11 October 1874 and 27 February 1875 (Godley 1970).

<sup>4</sup>NH Muk 1884.2.29.21 and 1884.2.29.22 are considered to be syntypes because they were collected on the *Challenger* expedition, as were several (other) syntypes, and they match Salvin’s (1896) descriptions of ‘Skeleton’ and ‘Skull’ respectively.

<sup>5</sup>S/2001.50.61 and S/2001.50.63 are considered to be possible syntypes because they potentially match Salvin’s (1896) descriptions of ‘Skeleton’ and ‘Sternum’ respectively.

TABLE 2  
Measurements of the *Pelecanoides urinatrix exsul* Salvin, 1896, type series. L = length; \*dried open. Some comparative measurements could not be taken from the skeletal specimens due to their state of preservation. All measurements in mm, taken by A. J. D. Tennyson (or P. Horton for SAMA B36415). The designated lectotype is highlighted.

| NH Muk reg. no.              | Wing L | Tail RT6 L | Tail RT1 L | Culmen L | Bill width at base | Bill depth at base | Bill arch L | Head L | Tarsometatarsus L |
|------------------------------|--------|------------|------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------|-------------------|
| 1891.6.18.107                | 120    | 33.7       | 29.4       | 16.1     | 7.9                | 9.8                | 4.6         | 53.3   | 26.4              |
| 1895.3.20.3                  | 124    | 29.9       | 30.9       | 16.9     | 8.3                | 9.5                | 3.8         | 53.3   | 27.5              |
| 1841.4.729                   | 121    | 32.5       | 32.2       | 16.8     | 8.3                | *                  | 6.7         | 53.4   | 25.8              |
| 1841.4.731 (now SAMA B36415) | 121    | 36.0       | 39.0       | 15.9     | 9.2                | 9.7                | 6.5         | 52.0   | 27.5              |
| 1841.4.730                   | 115    | 33.6       | 31.7       | 17.4     | 8.4                | 10.4               | 5.1         | 57.4   | 25.5              |
| 1841.4.732                   | 122    | 32.8       | 34.6       | 18.0     | 8.6                | 10.0               | 5.2         | 57.3   | 29.4              |
| 1841.4.728                   | 125    | 27.7       | 30.8       | 15.8     | 8.6                | 9.9                | 5.0         | 53.6   | 25.9              |
| 1890.12.13.18                | 124    | 39.2       | 39.2       | 16.8     | 8.5                | *                  | 5.5         | 54.1   | 28.7              |
| 1880.11.18.660               | 120    | 34.2       | 38.7       | 17.1     | 8.1                | 9.6                | 7.0         | 55.0   | 26.6              |
| 1880.11.18.656               | 121    | 35.4       | 35.8       | 16.1     | 8.1                | 9.1                | 5.5         | 53.5   | 26.2              |
| 1880.11.18.655               | 122    | 32.7       | 38.1       | 16.6     | 7.7                | 8.6                | 4.7         | 51.6   | 28.9              |
| 1880.11.18.657               | 124    | 35.2       | 38.3       | 15.9     | 6.9                | 8.2                | 3.8         | 51.4   | 25.9              |
| 1880.11.18.661               | 86     | 22.4       | 22.6       | 13.2     | 6.8                | *                  | 4.4         | 47.7   | 23.2              |
| 1880.11.18.659               | 118    | 29.4       | 32.7       | 15.8     | 8.9                | 9.3                | 6.5         | 54.2   | 26.9              |
| 1880.11.18.658               | 120    | 32.5       | 34.6       | 15.7     | 7.8                | 8.2                | 5.4         | 51.9   | 26.0              |
| 1876.4.26.12                 | 121    | 37.2       | 38.2       | 15.7     | 8.2                | 8.7                | 7.2         | 49.6   | 26.5              |
| 1876.4.26.13                 | 121    | 35.3       | 36.3       | 16.3     | 7.9                | 8.7                | 6.4         | 47.9   | 23.5              |
| 1875.7.2.25                  | 133    | 40.0       | 39.5       | 17.2     | 8.0                | 8.9                | 6.5         | 53.8   | 27.1              |
| 1842.6.11.13                 | 123    | 34.0       | 37.3       | 15.5     | 7.7                | *                  | 5.0         | 50.5   | 26.3              |
| 1884.2.29.21                 |        |            |            |          | c.7.9              |                    |             | c.48.6 |                   |
| S/2001.50.61                 |        |            |            |          |                    |                    |             |        |                   |
| S/2001.50.63                 |        |            |            |          |                    |                    |             |        |                   |
| 1884.2.29.22                 |        |            |            |          | c.8.7              |                    |             | 53.3   |                   |

TABLE 3  
Current taxon identity of specimens in the *Pelecanoides urinatrix exsul* Salvin, 1896, type series, based on this study. Mandible shape: SB = short and bowed, LP = long and parallel-sided. Wing length short: <125 mm. The designated lectotype is highlighted.

| NHMUK reg. no.               | Collecting locality                                 | Nostril septa | Mandible shape | Wing length   | Taxon                                 | Primary lectotype criteria met (see text) |
|------------------------------|---|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1891.6.18.107                | Crozet Islands                                      | ?             | SB             | 120           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | No  |
| 1895.3.20.3                  | Crozet Islands                                      | 30%           | SB             | 124           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | No  |
| 1841.4.729                   | At sea, near Kerguelen Islands                      | 30%           | SB             | 121           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | Yes                                       |
| 1841.4.731 (now SAMA B36415) | Kerguelen Islands                                   | 30%           | SB             | 121           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | Yes                                       |
| 1841.4.730                   | Kerguelen Islands                                   | 30%           | SB             | 115           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | Yes                                       |
| 1841.4.732                   | Kerguelen Islands                                   | ~30%          | SB             | 122           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | No  |
| 1841.4.728                   | Christmas Harbour, Kerguelen Islands                | ?             | SB             | 125           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | No  |
| 1890.12.13.18                | On board ship, Christmas Harbour, Kerguelen Islands | 30%           | SB             | 124           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | Yes                                       |
| 1880.11.18.660               | Christmas Harbour, Kerguelen Islands                | ~30%          | SB             | 120           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | No  |
| 1880.11.18.656               | Kerguelen Islands                                   | ~30%          | SB             | 121           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | No  |
| 1880.11.18.655               | Kerguelen Islands                                   | 30%           | SB             | 122           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | Yes                                       |
| 1880.11.18.657               | Kerguelen Islands                                   | 30%           | SB             | 124           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | Yes                                       |
| 1880.11.18.661               | Kerguelen Islands                                   | 50%           | -              | 86 (nestling) | <i>P. georgicus</i> <sup>1</sup>      | No  |
| 1880.11.18.659               | Betsy Cove, Kerguelen Islands                       | 30%           | SB             | 118           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | Yes                                       |
| 1880.11.18.658               | Betsy Cove, Kerguelen Islands                       | 30%           | SB             | 120           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | Yes                                       |
| 1876.4.26.12                 | Observatory Bay, Kerguelen Islands                  | 30%           | SB             | 121           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | Yes                                       |
| 1876.4.26.13                 | Observatory Bay, Kerguelen Islands                  | 30%           | SB             | 121           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | Yes                                       |
| 1875.7.2.25                  | New Zealand   | 30%           | LP             | 133           | <i>P. u. urinatrix</i> <sup>2</sup>   | No  |
| 1842.6.11.13                 | Auckland Islands                                    | -             | SB             | 123           | <i>P. u. exsul</i>                    | No  |
| 1884.2.29.21                 | -   | -             | ?SB            | -             | <i>P. urinatrix</i> ssp. <sup>3</sup> | No  |
| S/2001.50.61                 | -   | 30%           | ?SB            | -             | <i>P. urinatrix</i> ssp. <sup>3</sup> | No  |
| S/2001.50.63                 | -   | -             | -              | -             | <i>Pelecanoides</i> sp.               | No  |
| 1884.2.29.22                 | -   | -             | ?SB            | -             | <i>P. urinatrix</i> ssp. <sup>3</sup> | No  |

<sup>1</sup>On label it is noted ‘This is a nestling of *P. georgicus* Murphy & Harper, RA Falla May 1939, Aug 1956’.  
<sup>2</sup>The collection location ‘New Zealand’ suggests that this specimen was collected around the main North or South Islands, rather than at an offshore island group, and the bird’s relatively large size indicates that it is *P. u. urinatrix*.  
<sup>3</sup>Identification based on comparison with figures in Worthy (1998).



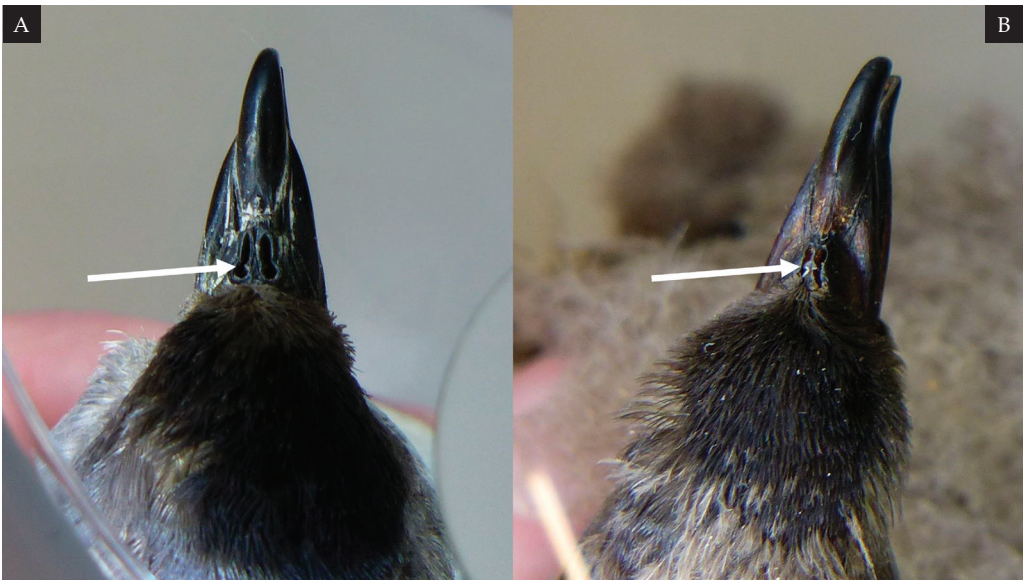


Figure 1. Dorsal views of bills of specimens from the type series of *Pelecanoides u. exsul*, showing positions of the nostril septa. (A) *Pelecanoides u. exsul*, NHMUK 1876.4.26.13 (lectotype), showing posteriorly (30% score, see arrow) sited nostril septa; (B) South Georgia Diving Petrel *P. georgicus* juvenile, NHMUK 1880.11.18.661 (paralectotype of *P. u. exsul*), showing centrally sited (50% score, see arrow) nostril septa (A. J. D. Tennyson, © Trustees of the Natural History Museum, London)



Figure 2. Lateral (A) and ventral (B) views of the lectotype of *Pelecanoides u. exsul*, NHMUK 1876.4.26.13 (A. J. D. Tennyson, © Trustees of the Natural History Museum, London)



Figure 3. Lateral views of paralectotypes of *Pelecanoides u. exsul*. (A) South Georgia Diving Petrel *P. georgicus* juvenile, NHMUK 1880.11.18.661; (B) *Pelecanoides u. urinatrix*, NHMUK 1875.7.2.25 (A. J. D. Tennyson, © Trustees of the Natural History Museum, London)

These designations fix the identity of *P. u. exsul* and maintain stability of the names most commonly used for *Pelecanoides* taxa globally. They therefore fulfil a primary objective of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to promote stability of scientific names (ICZN 1999).

#### Acknowledgements

Thanks to Ricardo Palma for taxonomic advice; Philippa Horton (South Australian Museum, Adelaide) for information on the syntype in Australia; Mark Adams, Judy White and Douglas Russell (all NHMUK) for their help with specimens at Tring; and Andy Elliott, Vincent Bretagnolle and Guy Kirwan for providing many helpful comments on the manuscript.

#### References:

- Clancey, P. A. 1981. On birds from Gough Island, central South Atlantic. *Durban Mus. Novit.* 12: 187–200.  
 Dickinson, E. C. & Remsen, J. V. (eds.) 2013. *The Howard and Moore complete checklist of the birds of the world*, vol. 1. Fourth edn. Aves Press, Eastbourne.  
 Fischer, J. H., Debski, I., Miskelly, C. M., Bost, C. A., Fromant, A., Tennyson, A. J. D., Tessler, J., Cole, R. & Hiscock, J. H. 2018. Analyses of phenotypic differentiations among South Georgian Diving Petrel



- (*Pelecanoides georgicus*) populations reveal an undescribed and highly endangered species from New Zealand. *PLoS ONE* 13(6): e0197766.
- Gaimard, M. 1823. Description de quelques nouvelles espèces d'oiseaux. *Bull. Gén. Univ. Scient.* 3: 52–53.
- Gmelin, J. F. 1789. *Systema naturae per regna tria naturae*, vol. 1(2). 13th edn. G. E. Beer, Lipsiae.
- Godley, E. J. 1970. Botany of the southern zone – exploration, 1847–1891. *Tuatara* 18: 50–93.
- Grosser, S., Robertson, F., Shepherd, L. D., Tennyson, A. J. D., Miskelly, C. M., Taylor, G. & Robertson, B. C. 2021. Phylogenetic affinities of the Whenua Hou Diving Petrel: implications for conservation. *Emu* 121: 102–112.
- International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN). 1999. *International code of zoological nomenclature*. Fourth edn. International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, London.
- Marchant, S. & Higgins, P. J. 1990. *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand & Antarctic birds*. vol. 1A. Oxford Univ. Press, Melbourne.
- Mathews, G. M. 1912. *The birds of Australia*, vol. 2. Witherby & Co., London.
- Murphy, R. C. & Harper, F. 1916. Two new diving petrels. *Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.* 35: 65–67.
- Murphy, R. C. & Harper, F. 1921. A review of the diving petrels. *Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.* 44: 495–554.
- Nicoll, M. J. 1906. Remarks on some species of birds collected during the recent voyage of the R.Y.S. “Valhalla”. *Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl.* 16: 102–106.
- Norman, F. I. & Brown, R. S. 1987. Notes on Common Diving-Petrels *Pelecanoides urinatrix* found beach-washed in Victoria, 1985. *Emu* 87: 179–185.
- Ross, J. C. 1847. *A voyage of discovery and research in the southern and Antarctic regions, during the years 1839–43*, vol. 1. John Murray, London.
- Salvin, O. 1896. Order Tubinares. Pp. 340–455 in Saunders, H. & Salvin, O. (eds.) *Catalogue of the birds in the British Museum*, vol. 25. Trustees of the Brit. Mus., London.
- Thomson, C. W. & Murray, J. 1911. *Report on the scientific results of the voyage of H.M.S. Challenger during the years 1873–76. Narrative*, vol. 1. His Majesty's Stationary Office, London.
- Warren, R. L. M. 1966. *Type-specimens of birds in the British Museum (Natural History)*, vol. 1. Trustees of the Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.), London.
- Worthy, T. H. 1998. Fossils indicate *Pelecanoides georgicus* had large colonies at Mason Bay, Stewart Island, New Zealand. *Notornis* 45: 229–246.
- Addresses:* Alan J. D. Tennyson, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, P.O. Box 467, Wellington 6140, New Zealand, e-mail: [alant@tepapa.govt.nz](mailto:alant@tepapa.govt.nz). Alexander L. Bond, Bird Group, Dept. of Life Sciences, Natural History Museum, Akeman Street, Tring, Herts. HP23 6AP, UK, e-mail: [a.bond@nhm.ac.uk](mailto:a.bond@nhm.ac.uk). Joanne H. Cooper, Bird Group, Dept. of Life Sciences, Natural History Museum, Akeman Street, Tring, Herts. HP23 6AP, UK, e-mail: [joanne.cooper@nhm.ac.uk](mailto:joanne.cooper@nhm.ac.uk). Johannes H. Fischer, Aquatic Unit, Dept. of Conservation, Wellington, New Zealand, e-mail: [jfischer@doc.govt.nz](mailto:jfischer@doc.govt.nz)