Seychelles Bird Records Committee

Adrian Skerrett, Michael Betts, John Bowler, Ian Bullock, Tony Disley and Rob Lucking

The following records were accepted by Seychelles Bird Records Committee in 2021:

Jacobin Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus*

One 2cy at the IDC village, Alphonse on 15-28 January 2021 (G. Fordham, G. Curd).

This is the 19th record for Seychelles.

Photo: Gail Fordham

Lesser Cuckoo *Cuculus poliocephalus*

One 2cy at Frégate in 1 January 1996 (R. Lucking).

To date, 25 records have been accepted; this is the 5th record chronologically

Photo: Rob Lucking

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*

One 1cy at the beach, Alphonse on 22 December 2020 (C. Narty).

This is the 73rd record for Seychelles.

Photo: Chris Narty

Cuculus sp.
One, probably Madagascar Cuckoo *C. rochii*, at Settlement beach, Picard, Aldabra 15 September 2020 (M. van Rooyen).
There has been no confirmed report of Madagascar Cuckoo to date.

Common Swift *Apus apus*

One at Lamar Torti, North Island, Farquhar on 1February 2021 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon); accepted with caveat re other all-dark swifts.

One 1cy at the IDC village, tortoise pen and villas, Desroches on 26-29 October 2021 (E. Levorato, W. McNeely). Accepted with caveat.

SBRC has now accepted 47 Seychelles records.

Photo: Elena Levorato

Allen's Gallinule *Porphyrula alleni*
One adult at the hotel garden, Alphonse on 17 December 2020-5 January 2021 (G. Curd, G. Fordham).

This is the 10th record for Seychelles.

Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*
One at Roche Caiman, Mahe on 26 September 1993 (D. Cowton, K. Cowton).

This is the 9th record for Seychelles, but possibly the same individual as the 4th record: one at the Inter-Island Quay, Victoria. Mahe 4 November 1993-20 October 1994.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*
One at North Island Farquhar from 16 December 2020 until at least 22 December 2020, two present on 15 February 2021 and one at South Island on 10 March 2021 (A. Cupidon, M. Morgan).

This is the 12th record for Seychelles

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*
One at the airstrip, east beach and north beach of Bird Island 27 May-19 July 2021 (C. J. Feare, C. Larose).

This is now an annual visitor to Seychelles, but SBRC will continue to assess records due to the possibility of Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*

Snipe sp. *Gallinago sp.*
One at the airstrip, North Island, Farquhar on 4 December 2021 (C. Musgrave).
This is the 29th record for Seychelles in this category.

Grey-tailed Tattler *Heteroscelus brevipes*
One at North Island, Farquhar on 28 November 2020 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon).

This is the 8th record for Seychelles.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*
One at Roche Caiman, Mahe on 26 September 1993 (K. Cowton).
This is the 15th record for Seychelles (including 12 from Mahe).

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola*
One non-breeding adult at the south beach, Alphonse on 1 November 2021 (G. Curd).
This is the 33rd record for Seychelles.

Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni*
One at the airstrip, Alphonse on 12 March 2009 (J. Wells and Victor Emanuel Nature Tours party from cruiseship Le Ponant).
One 1cy at the beach, Bird Island on 21-23 October 2013 (T. & T. Enticknap).
One adult at the airstrip, Alphonse on 5-20 April 2021 (G. Curd).

SBRC has now accepted 24 records for Seychelles.

Collared Pratincole (right), Black-winged Pratincole (below). Both photos: George Curd

Caspian Gull *Larus cachinnans* or Steppe Gull *L. fuscus barabensis*
One 1cy at the IDC jetty, Desroches on 16 January 2021 (J. C. Camille).
This is the 3rd record for Seychelles in this category.

Black-bellied Storm-petrel *Fregetta tropica*
Two about 24 nautical miles east of Providence at 9°19S, 51°31'E on 26 September 2007 (A. Hacking, S. Hacking).
This is the 4th record for Seychelles.

Barau's Petrel *Pterodroma baraui*

Eight of 15 juveniles tracked in 2017-2018 used the Seychelles EEZ as follows:

1. One 9 May 2017 to 17 May 2017.
2. One 17 May 2017 to 26 May 2017.
3. One 23 August 2017 to 09 September 2017.
4. One 19 April 2018 to 31 May 2018.
5. One 19 April 2018 to 29 May 2018.
6. One 22 April 2018 to 18 May 2018.
7. One 5 May 2018 to 30 May 2018.
8. One 5 May 2018 to 09 June 2018.

(UMR ENTROPIE, University of Réunion Island and CEBC-CNRS. These data have been produced jointly by the LIFE+ Petrels (European Project Grant number LIFE 13 BIO/FR/000075) and the Program EARLYLIFE funded by a European Research Council Advanced Grant under the European Community's Seven Framework Program FP7/2007–2013 (Grant Agreement ERC-2012-ADG_20120314 to Henri Weimerskirch). Data extraction and analysis: Claire Cécile Juhasz, FEDER SMAC).

These are the first records for Seychelles.

Mascarene Petrel *Pseudobulweria aterrima*

Nine tracked with GLS technology between October 2017 and January 2020 entered the Seychelles EEZ between April and August. Four passed through the EEZ towards the northern Indian Ocean and five remained for part of their non-breeding season (observations kindly provided by UMR ENTROPIE, University of Réunion Island. These data have been by a European Project: LIFE+ Petrels (Grant number LIFE 13 BIO/FR/000075). Data extraction and analysis: Audrey Jaeger).

These are the first records for Seychelles.

Great Egret *Ardea alba*
One adult non-breeding at Cinq Cases, Grande Terre, Aldabra on 26-28 June 2021 (M. van Rooyen).

One at the airstrip and east beach bushes, Bird Island on 27 May to 19 July 2021 (C. J. Feare, C. Larose).

SBRC has now accepted 25 Seychelles records.

Photo: Chris Feare

White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

One adult non-breeding at the coconut plantation, North Island, Farquhar on 18 December 2020 (A. Cupidon, M. Morgan).

This is the 11th record for the outer islands.

Red-billed Tropicbird *Phaethon aethereus*

One adult race *indicus* at Bird Island on 27 May to 10 June and 14 July 2021 (C. J. Feare, C. Larose).

This is the 14th record for Seychelles.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

One 1cy-2cy at Coco Edok, North Island, Farquhar on 17 November 2020 to 8 March 2021, when possibly still present. (A. Cupidon, M. Morgan).

This is the 4th record south of the Amirantes (it is an annual visitor to the granitics and Amirantes).

Photo: Anabelle Cupidon

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*
One possibly two, at Northeast Point, Mahe on 10 December 2020 (S. Agricole).

One 2cy at North Island on 13 April to 2 May 2021, when still present (A. Sanders, T. Havemann).

SBRC has now accepted 19 Seychelles records.

Photo: Angelin Sanders

Indian Pond Heron *Ardeola grayii*
One adult non-breeding at the farm area, Denis Island on 13 June 2018 (F. Barberini).
One at the tortoise pen, Desroches 21 September 2021 to 10 November 2021. (E. Levorato, W. McNeely, A. P. Skerrett).

SBRC has now accepted 9 Seychelles records.

Photos: Francesco Barberini (left), Elena Levorato (above)

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

One at Grand Soeur on 12 December 2021 (C. Gouraud).
One 1cy at Grand Barbe, Silhouette on 13 December 2021(E. Levorato, W. McNeely, N. Khan).

These are the 5th and 6th records for Seychelles, possibly the same individual.

Photo: Elena Levorato

Oriental Honey-buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*

One male 2cy at south-east of Desroches on 26 February to 9 August 2021 (A. Commetant, E. Levorato, J. J. C. Camille and W. McNeely).

This is the first record for Seychelles.

Photo: Elena Levorato

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis*

One adult female at La Gigi, Picard, Aldabra on 1-11 May 2021 (van Rooyen, L. A-Bear).

This is the first record for Seychelles.

Photo: Martin van Rooyen

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus*

One adult at Coco Edok Marsh, North Island, Farquhar on 4 January 2021 (A. Cupidon).

One adult near the northwest beach, D'Arros on 3 November 2021 (E. Moulinie, R. Rose).

SBRC has now accepted 33 records east of the Aldabra Group (where it is an annual visitor).

Photo: Anabelle Cupidon

Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni*

One adult male found at Foret Noire, Mont Fleuri, Mahe on 6 April 2021, taken to Ministry of Environment where it died on 7 April 2021 (D. Delpech, S. Morel, A. Pothin, D. Labiche, A. Dias, S. Jeremie, E. Racombo).

This is the 13th record for Seychelles.

Photo: Dave Delpeche

Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonorae*
One at the Research Station, Picard, Aldabra on 19 November 2020 (M. von Rooyen)
This is the 53rd record for Seychelles.

Common Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

One at North Island coconut plantation, Farquhar on 13 January 2021 (M. Morgan, A. Cupidon).
Three at Anse Var, Picard, Aldabra on 2 March 2021 (M. van Rooyen).
One adult at the airstrip and IDC village, Alphonse on 28-31 May 2021 (G. Fordham, G. Curd).

SBRC has now accepted 50 records for Seychelles.

Photo: Martin van Rooyen

Mascarene Martin *Phedina borbonica*
One at the coconut plantation, North Island, Farquhar on 23-24 November 2020 (A. Cupidon, M. Morgan).
One at North Island village, Farquhar on 13 January 2021(A. Cupidon, M. Morgan).
One at beach Section F-G, St Francois on 2 November 2021 (G. Curd, G. Fordham).
SBRC has now accepted 21 records for Seychelles.

Photos: Annabelle Cupidon (left), George Curd (right)

Common House Martin *Delichon urbicum*
One at beach section F-G, St Francois on 2 November 2021 (G. Curd, G. Fordham).
One at Assumption on 2 December 2021 (C. Gouraud). Accepted with caveat that other all-dark swifts were not ruled out.

SBRC has now accepted 29 records for Seychelles.

Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*
One female or 1cy at North Island on 27 November 2021 (C. J. Havemann, T. Havemann, A. Saunders).

This is the 21st record for Seychelles.

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*
One adult male at Ile Perseverance, Mahe on 22 January 2021 (A. Skerrett).

This is the 83rd record for Seychelles

Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina*

One 1cy at the airstrip, Alphonse on 28 December 2020 (C. Narty).

This is the 10th record for Seychelles.

Photo: Chris Narty

Western Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

One adult female at Ile Déposées, Farquhar on 6 January 2021 (A. Cupidon, M. Morgan). One 2cy at the airstrip, Alphonse on 28 April 2021 (G. Curd).

SBRC has now accepted 64 records for Seychelles.

Photo: Chris Narty

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*

One male at the Research Station, Picard, Aldabra on 18 April 2021 (M. van Rooyen, J. Brice, L. A'Bear).

This is the 53rd record for Seychelles.

Photo: Martin van Rooyen

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*
One 1cy at the Research Station, Picard Aldabra on 22 November 2020 (M. van Rooyen).
Three (1 adult, 1 1cy, 1 unaged) at the airstrip, Alphonse on 2 December 2020 (G. Curd).

SBRC has now accepted 39 records for Seychelles.