

Seychelles Bird Records Committee

*Adrian Skerrett, Michael Betts, John Bowler, Ian Bullock, Tony Disley,
Rob Lucking and Martin van Rooyen*

The following records were accepted by Seychelles Bird Records Committee in 2022:

European Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*



One 1cy at the settlement, Rémire on 18 December 2021 (C. Gouraud).

This is the 13th record for Seychelles.

European Turtle Dove at Rémire (Christophe Gouraud)

Jacobin Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus*



One 2cy at the IDC garden, La Passe, Silhouette on 31 January 2022 (N. Khan, J. Clarisse, V. Dufrene).

This is the 20th record for Seychelles

Jacobin Cuckoo at Silhouette (Vanessa Dufrene)

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*



One 2cy at the hotel beach, Desroches on 12-14 January 2022 (E. Levorato, W. McNeely).

One adult at the IDC village, Desroches on 30 March to 4 April 2022 (E. Levorato, W. McNeely, L. Padayachy).

These are the 74th -75th records for Seychelles



Common Cuckoos (2cy left, adult right) at Desroches (both Elena Levorato)

Common Swift *Apus apus*

One at the tortoise pen and IDC village, Desroches on 31 December 2021, accepted with caveat that other all-dark swifts could not be ruled out (E. Levorato, W. McNeely).



One at sea at 8°17'12.6"S 50°32'28.8"E between St François Atoll and Cosmoledo on 18 December 2021, accepted with caveat that other all-dark swifts could not be ruled out (C. Gouraud).

Two to three at Desroches including: two at the IDC village, tortoise pen and airstrip on 23 January 2022; one probable *pekinensis* found alive on the ground rain soaked on 29 January 2022 was possibly one of these or alternatively a third individual (W. McNeely, E. Levorato).

Common Swift at Desroches (Elena Levorato)

These are the 48th-50th records for Seychelles.

Pacific Swift *Apus pacificus*



One at Richard's Rock, Aride on 24 December 2021, accepted with caveat that Blyth's Swift cannot be ruled out (C. Nisbet, M. O'Brien, J. O'Brien, F. Solomon).

Three at the IDC village, jetty and tortoise pen on 31 December 2021 to 3 January 2022, accepted with caveat that Blyth's Swift cannot be ruled out (E. Levorato, W. McNeely).

Pacific Swifts at Desroches (Elena Levorato)

These are the 19th and 20th records for Seychelles.

Red Knot *Calidris canutus*



One adult non-breeding at the beach near the lighthouse and near the cemetery, Desroches on 1-7 February 2022 (E. Levorato, W. McNeely).

This is the 2nd record for Seychelles.

Red Knot at Desroches (William McNeely)

Black-winged or Oriental Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni/maldivarum*



One at the airstrip, Desroches on 30 January to 14 March 2022 (E. Levorato, W. McNeely).
This is the 3rd record for Seychelles in this category.

Black-winged or Oriental Pratincole at Desroches (William McNeely)

South Polar Skua *Stercorarius maccormicki*

Satellite tracking has shown the species winters in the Mozambique Channel and northern Indian Ocean including Seychelles. The following records were accepted:

1. One entered the north of Seychelles EEZ from off Somalia on 10 June 2012 departing to the north on 18 October 2012.
2. One entered the Seychelles EEZ from the direction of Réunion on 24 May 2012 until 28 May 2012 then again from off Somalia 30 May 2012 departing north 22 October 2012.
3. One the east of Seychelles EEZ on 16 June 2013, departing on 6 October 2013.
4. One entered the east of Seychelles EEZ on 18 May 2013 departing to the east 31 August 2013.

Credit: Weimerskirch H., Tarroux A., Chastel O., Delord, K., Cherel, Y. and Descamps, S. 2015. Population-specific wintering distributions of adult south polar skuas over three oceans. *Mar Ecol Prog Ser* 538: 229–237.

These are the 6th-9th records for Seychelles.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*



One probable Heuglin's Gull *Larus fuscus heuglini* at the beach, Rémire on 27 February to 1 March 2022 (C. Lionnet).

This is the 17th record for Seychelles of which at least 11 are identified as *L. f. heuglini*.

Lesser Black-backed Gull at Rémire (Christian Lionnet)

Bulweria sp.

Two species of *Bulweria* occur in the Indian Ocean and are likely visitors to Seychelles: Jouanin's Petrel *B. fallax* and Bulwer's Petrel *B. bulwerii*. Recently, what may prove to be a third form of *Bulweria* has been photographed near the Comoros. SBRC has concluded that for now, in the absence of a specimen or measurements, it will treat all sight records of *Bulweria* petrels as *Bulweria sp.* until the situation around the Comoros is clarified.



Four at 8°17'12.86"S, 50°32'28.79"E (about 62 nautical miles north of Providence) on 20 December 2021 (C. Gouraud).

One at 5.01849°S, 51.19418°E (about 125 nautical miles west of Remire) on 16 January 2022 (C. Gouraud).

Bulweria sp. north of Providence (Christophe Gouraud)

Grey-headed Kingfisher *Halcyon leucocephalia*



One adult at the Old Settlement, Picard, Aldabra on 22 March 2022 (M. Risi).

This is the 3rd record for Seychelles.

Grey-headed Kingfisher at Aldabra (Michelle Risi)

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus*



One adult at beach section F-G, Alphonse on 14-18 December 2021 (G. Curd).

This is the 34th record east of the Aldabra Group (where it is annual).

Broad-billed Roller at Alphonse (George Curd)

Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni*

One female at Desroches on 21-25 March 2022 (W. McNeely, E. Levorato, M. Barrallon).

This is the 14th record for Seychelles.

Lesser Kestrel at Desroches at Desroches (Elena Levorato)



Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonora*

One 2cy at the airstrip, Alphonse on 2 January 2022 (G. Fordham, G. Curd).



Eleonora's Falcon at Alphonse (George Curd)

One 1cy at sea at 7.945483S, 43.577221E on 23 December 2021 (C. Gouraud).



These are the 54th and 55th records for Seychelles.

Eleonora's Falcon northwest of Aldabra (Christophe Gouraud)

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

One at the tortoise pen, Desroches on 24 January 2022 (W. McNeely, E. Levorato).

This is the 51st record for Seychelles

Sand Martin at Desroches (William McNeely)



Common House Martin *Delichon urbicum*

One at the tortoise pen, Desroches on 24 January 2022 (W. McNeely, E. Levorato).

This is the 31st record for Seychelles

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*



Northern Wheatears at Mahe (Adrian Skerrett) and at Assumption (Caroline Sanchez)

One 2cy male at Anse Boileau, Mahe on 29 January 2022 (A. P. Skerrett, A. Boniface, T. Vel

Two male (one adult male, one 2cy, at the airstrip, Desroches on 24 January 2022 (W. McNeely, E. Levorato).

One 2cy male at beach section A-B, Alphonse on 9 February 2022 (C. Narty).

One adult male at Assumption on 26 February 2022 (C. Sanchez).

These are the 85th-88th records for Seychelles

Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina*



One, probably male, at Point Tamatave, Alphonse on 28 January 2022 (C. Narty).

This is the 11th record for Seychelles

Isabelline Wheatear at Alphonse (Chris Narty)

Pied Wheatear *Oenanthe pleschanka*



One at the airstrip, Alphonse on 6 December 2021, accepted with the caveat that Eastern Black-eared Wheatear *O. melanoleuca* could not be ruled out (G. Curd).

This is the 9th record for Seychelles.

Pied Wheatear at Alphonse (George Curd)

Western Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*



One near the IDC Office, Alphonse on 25 February 2022 (C. Narty).

This is the 65th record for Seychelles.

Western Yellow Wagtail at Alphonse (Chris Narty)

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*



One 2cy at the airstrip, Alphonse on 5 January 2022 (C. Narty).

This is the 40th record for Seychelles.

Red-throated Pipit at Alphonse (Chris Narty)