

Seychelles Bird Records Committee

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The following records were accepted during January 2013:

Red-billed Duck *Anas erythrorhyncha*

One on pool at Coco transect, Grande Terre, Aldabra on 30 November 2012 (C Onezia, S Etienne).

This is the 2nd record for Seychelles and possibly the same individual as in the first record from the same location in January 2012.

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*

One immature or non-breeding adult at the sooty tern colony, Bird 12-19 November 2012 and probably earlier dates (NJ Phillips, VE Phillips, CJ Feare, TR Bresson).

This is the 6th record for Seychelles.

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus ruber*

One immature at Ile Perseverance 5 October- December 2012 (N Rose, AP Skerrett, R Fanchette, G McKinlay).

This is the 4th record east of Aldabra, where this species breeds.

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

One immature at the marsh, Aride 1-2 October 2012 (L Calabrese, J Simeon).

This is the 12th record for Seychelles.

Great Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*

One at side of road to Grande Anse, behind plantations and pond system, Frégate, 13 October 2012 (M Lautenbach, L Clarke).

This is the 7th record for Seychelles.

Great Egret *Egretta alba*

One at between Coco Transects and landing stage path, Grande Terre, Aldabra on 21 April 2012, and one presumed to be the same individual seen intermittently around the same area until 3 October 2012 when joined by a second bird (C Onezia).

This is the 19th record for Seychelles.

Red-billed Tropicbird *Phaethon aethereus*

Two at Anse Macquereau, Frégate on 16 October 2012 (M Lautenbach, L Clarke, D Marx, T Leibrick).

This is the 9th record for Seychelles.

Reed Cormorant *Phalacrocorax africanus*

One at the Cinq Cases landing stage, Grand Terre, Aldabra on 12 February 2012 (D Birch).

One at Cinq Cases, Aldabra on 6 May 2012 and possibly the same individual from 23 April 2012 (C Onezia, C Baker, P Haupt, R Baxter, J Bristol).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 5.

Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni*

One adult male above Banyan Hill, Frégate 19-22 March 2012 (G Canning, T Raposo De Rezende).

This is the 7th record for Seychelles.

Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonora*

One 1CY at Picard, Aldabra on 27 December 2012 (C Onezia, J Souyave).

This is the 34th record for Seychelles.

Western Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus*

One at Glacis Noir trail, Praslin on 27 January and 8 February 2012 (A Reuleaux, H Richards, T Payet, J Simeon).

This is the 7th record for Seychelles.

Lesser Moorhen *Gallinula angulata*

One juvenile at the IDC village, Desroches on 10 March 2012 (T Jupiter).

This is the first record for Seychelles.



Lesser Moorhen at Desroches (Photo: Tony Jupiter)

Pintail Snipe *Gallinago stenura* or Swinhoe's Snipe *G. megala*

One at lawns opposite agricultural fields, Frégate on 20 October 2012 (M Lautenbach, D Marx). There have now been 8 records relating to one of these species, but only one (a specimen record) accepted without caveat.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

One at pools near Coastguard Station, Ile Perseverance on 18 November 2012 (S Ansell).
This is the 11th record for Seychelles.

Red Knot *Calidris canutus*

One adult at Pointe Dot, Alphonse on 29 October 2012 (A Duhec).
This is the first record for Seychelles.



Red Knot at Alphonse (Photo: Aurélie Duhec)

Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus*

One non-breeding adult at pools near Coastguard Station, Ile Perseverance on 15 November 2012 (G McKinlay).
This is the 5th record for Seychelles.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

One 1CY at the airstrip, Denis 21 September 2009 (C Onezia).
One adult male at a temporary rainwater pool, Ile Perseverance on 7 October 2012 (AP Skerrett, R Fanchette).
One adult female at the hotel area, settlement and airstrip, Bird 13-24 November 2012 (NJ Phillips, VE Phillips, CJ Feare, TR Bresson).
This raises the number of Seychelles records to 34.

Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum*

One adult at Bijoutier on 2 November 2012 and presumably the same individual at Alphonse

airstrip 5-6 November 2012 (A Duhec, R Jeanne).
This is the 17th record for Seychelles.

Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum* or Black-winged Pratinole *G. nordmanni*

One adult and one 1CY at the airstrip, Denis on 19 November 2009 (C Onezia).
This is the 2nd record in this category.

Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni*

One adult at the beach and airstrip, Bird on 7 April 2008 (J Babbington).
This is the 13th record for Seychelles.

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica*

One adult at pools near the Coastguard Station, at Ile Perseverance, on 30 November 2012 (AP Skerrett).
This is the 14th record for Seychelles.

Little Tern *Sternula albifrons*

At least one with at least one Saunders's Tern in a mixed flock 11 at Cinq Cases, Grande Terre, Aldabra on 21 April 2012 (C Onezia, P Haupt, J Bristol).
This is the 2nd record for Seychelles.

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis*

One immature male at La Cour, Aride 8-10 October 2012 (L Calabrese, C Bresson, A Barra, J Simeon).
This is the 3rd record for Seychelles and the world's most easterly record.

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*

One 1CY at the eastern plateau, North on 30 October 2012 (G Wepener, E Mokhobo).
This is the 45th record for Seychelles.

Jacobin Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus*

One 2CY at the settlement, Poivre on 18 January 2012 (L Mair, L Chong Seng).
This is the 12th record for Seychelles.

Lesser Cuckoo *Cuculus poliocephalus*

One 2CY at Cousine on 2 May 2011 (K Jolliffe, S-M Jolliffe, R Geiger).
This is the 18th record for Seychelles.

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus*

One above the south end of the settlement, Assumption 2-5 March 2012 (CJ Feare, P Benoit, T Mahoune, J Hoareau).
This is the 2nd record for Seychelles.

Common Swift *Apus apus*

Three flying low over central scrub, Assumption on 17 December 2011 (CJ Feare, J Linnebjerg, C Onezia).

One at the back of the settlement, Assumption on 31 January 2012 (CJ Feare, J Linnebjerg, P Benoit, T Mahoune).

Two over the high dune, Assumption on 4 February 2012 (CJ Feare).

Two over the settlement, Assumption 6 February 2012, one remaining 7- 10 February 2012 (CJ Feare).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 29.

European Roller *Coracias garrulus*

One 2CY near the airstrip, Assumption on 16-21 March 2012 (J Hoareau, CJ Feare).

One 1CY at the tern colony and vicinity, Bird 12-23 November 2012 with gaps on 15 and 21 November (possibly implying departures), two 1CY present 16 November 2012 (NJ Phillips, VE Phillips, CJ Feare, TR Bresson).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 45.

Blue-checked Bee-eater *Merops persicus*

One 1CY at the south end of the tern colony, Bird 13-16 November 2012 (NJ Phillips, VE Phillips).

This is the 71st record for Seychelles.

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*

One adult female or 1CY at north end, Bird on 24 November 2012 (NJ Phillips, TR Bresson, VE Phillips).

This is the 8th record for Seychelles.

European Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*

One adult female adjacent the airstrip, Assumption on 11 December 2011 (CJ Feare, J Linnebjerg, C Onezia).

One female or 2CY adjacent the airstrip, Assumption on 15 March 2012 (CJ Feare).

At least two 1CY at various locations, Bird 12-24 November 2012, possibly four 14-17 November 2012; probably also present earlier dates (NJ Phillips, VE Phillips, CJ Feare, TR Bresson).

One 1CY inland north, Assumption on 27 November 2012 (T Mahoune, J Moumou).

At least four at the Old Settlement and Settlement area, Picard, Aldabra from 19 December 2012 to 8 January 2013, comprising three unaged on 19 December, one adult male on 27 December and at least four unaged 5-8 January (C Onezia, J Brice, T Quanz).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 24.

Mascarene Martin *Phedina borbonica*

Two between Anse Grande Poche and Pointe Tangen, Picard, Aldabra on 11 March 2012 (J van de Cromennacker, C Onezia, D Birch, B Narty, R Baxter).

At least 3 at Cinq Cases, Grand Terre, Aldabra on 6 May 2012 (C Onezia, C Baker, B Narty)

One at St Francois on 14 November 2012 (A Duhec, R Jeanne).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 10.

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

One at the airstrip, Alphonse on 9 March 2012 (A Duhec, R Jeanne).

One at near a temporary rainwater pool, Ile Perseverance 7-8 October 2012 (AP Skerrett, R

Fanchette).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 27.

Common House Martin *Delichon urbica*

One adult at the northern end of the settlement, Assumption 4 February 2012 (CJ Feare, P Benoit).

One 2CY at Cinq Cases, Grand Terre, Aldabra 6-7 February 2012 (D Birch, M Šúr, P Haverson, S Denis).

Minimum four (at least two presumed first-year and two adult) at the northern end of the settlement, Assumption 8-11 February 2012, with two including one adult and one presumed first-year on 8 February, three unaged 9-10 February; two adults 11-13 February 2012 (CJ Feare, P Benoit).

One first -year at the high dune, Assumption on 26 February 2012 (CJ Feare).

Up to six unaged at the northern end of the settlement, Assumption 2-5 March 2012; three on 2 March, four on 3 March, six on 4-5 March 2012, one remaining until 10 March 2012 (CJ Feare).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 16.

Greater Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*

One at the farm area and near the airstrip, Denis on 24 September 2009 (C Onezia).

This is the 5th record for Seychelles.

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina*

One adult at Bijoutier on 2 November 2012 (A Duhec, R Jeanne).

This is the 4th record for Seychelles.

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

One male in bushes at west end of airstrip, Assumption on 31 March 2012 (CJ Feare, J van der Crommenacker, J Hoareau, T Mahoune).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 5.

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

One fresh Spring in beach crest vegetation c. 1 km north of the settlement, Assumption on 3 March 2012 (CJ Feare, J Hoareau).

This is the 6th the record for Seychelles.

Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

One 1CY female at bushes at the end of the airstrip, Denis on 7 November 2009 (C Onezia)

This is the 15th record for Seychelles.

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*

One male at SE end and one female halfway along the airstrip, Assumption 15 January 2012; presumed same individuals and a second female at the same location 18 January 2012 (CJ Feare, J Linnebjerg).

One male the “departure lounge” at the airstrip, Assumption on 16 January 2012 and presumed same male on path to southeast of the airstrip 18 January 2012 (CJ Feare, J Linnebjerg).

Minimum four males and one female at the settlement and airstrip Assumption 26 January to 16 February 2012 (CJ Feare, J Linnebjerg).

One at the east end of the airstrip, Assumption 4 March 2012 and possibly the same individual at the settlement 5 March 2012 (CJ Feare).

One 2CY/first-summer male at Picard, Aldabra on 4 March 2012 (C Onezia)

One 1CY male at Pointe Dot, Alphonse on 12 October 2012 (A Duhec).

One 1CY male at the airstrip, Desroches on 1 November 2012, 2 November 2012 & 14 November 2012 (T Jupiter).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 61.

Pied Wheatear *Oenanthe pleschanka*

One 1CY male at airstrip near beach at north end, Bird 14 November 2012 (NJ Phillips, VE Phillips, TR Bresson).

This is the 4th record for Seychelles.

Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti*

One female near the estate area adjacent the airstrip, Denis 23-24 November 2009 (C Onezia).

This is the 3rd record for Seychelles. The other two records occurred this same week and may have involved the same individual as they both concerned a first-winter male at Bird Island 16-19 November 2009 and at Cousine on 23-24 November 2009.

Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina*

One north of the high dune, Assumption on 26 January 2012 (CJ Feare).

This is the 9th record for Seychelles.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*

One at north end of settlement, Assumption on 12 December 2011 (CJ Feare, J Linnebjerg, C Onezia).

One in sisal at west end of the airstrip, Assumption on 3 March 2012 (CJ Feare).

One at the old settlement, Assumption on 7 March 2012 (CJ Feare).

One in casuarinas at the southwest beach, Assumption on 13 March 2012 (CJ Feare).

One south of the settlement, Assumption on 15 March 2012 (CJ Feare).

One at Pointe au Sel, Mahe on 30 October 2012 (CJ Feare).

One 1CY at Beach section CD, in front of chalet N21, Alphonse on 14 November 2012 (A Duhec, R Jeanne).

One at the north end of the tern colony, Bird on 18 November 2012 (NJ Phillips).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 43.

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*

One at the hotel and village area, Bird 12-15 November 2012 (NJ Phillips, VE Phillips, TR Bresson).

One adult male at the settlement, North Island, Farquhar 16-22 November 2012 (J Niemandt, G Brooke-Sumner).

One 1CY at bushes at the end of the airstrip, Denis on 19 November 2009 (C Onezia).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 36.

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

One male probably race *beema* at the airstrip and helipad, Frégate on 21 March 2012 (G Canning).

One 1CY at the hotel area, Bird 14-24 November 2012 (NJ Phillips, VE Phillips, TR Bresson, CJ Feare).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 43.

Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*

One adult at the airstrip, Assumption on 15 January to 21 February 2012, two present on 17-18 January 2012 (CJ Feare, J Linnebjerg).

This is the first record for Seychelles.



Richard's Pipit at Assumption (Photo: Chris Feare)

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*

Three at the airstrip, Alphonse, the female seen later the same day near guides' accommodation with a Tree Pipit on 12 November 2012 (A Duhec, R Jeanne).

Two 1CY at the north end of the airstrip, Bird 14-24 November 2012 (NJ Phillips, VE Phillips, CJ Feare).

This raises the number of accepted Seychelles records to 23.