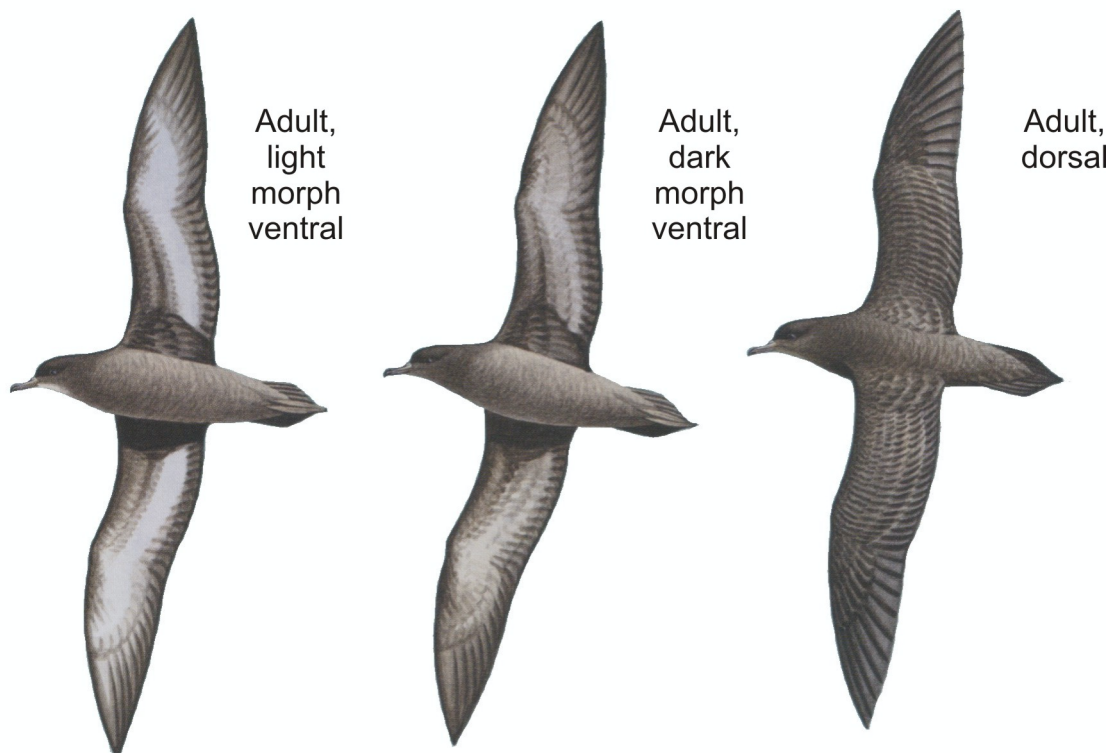


## Short-tailed Shearwater

*Ardenna tenuirostris*

Species No.: 71

Band size: 16 SS



### Identification:

See illustrations – a large, heavily built shearwater;  
Legs and feet predominately dark grey;  
Tarsus is stout and distinctly flattened on sides;  
Toe nails are dark grey;  
Egg width 28 - 36 mm and length 68 - 76 mm.

### Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	262 – 288 mm	269 -284 mm
8 <sup>th</sup> Primary:	152 – 166 mm	154 – 171 mm
Tail:	74 – 87 mm	75 – 91 mm
Bill:	29.4 – 33.7 mm	29.1 – 34.2 mm
Tarsus:	49.5 – 55.9 mm	49.6 – 54.3 mm
Weight:	508 – 614 g	473 – 594 g

### Ageing:

Breeding adults return to nesting area in mid-September and come ashore in October to begin cleaning out burrows and then most birds leave the colony for up to three weeks;  
Breeding pairs return and lay their egg in late November;  
Non-breeding birds (2+) or (5-) return to their birthing areas from mid-November  
Fledglings (1) leave the nesting burrow from mid-April to mid-May and migrate to the northern hemisphere with adults;  
Age at first pairing is not known 3-4 years, but females don't breed until 5-7 years old, and males 5-8 years old, so all unknown-age nesting birds should be aged (5+).

### Sexing:

No sexual dimorphism in size or plumage;  
Adults might be sexed on cloaca with female cloacal dilation around the laying period;  
Both sexes incubate.