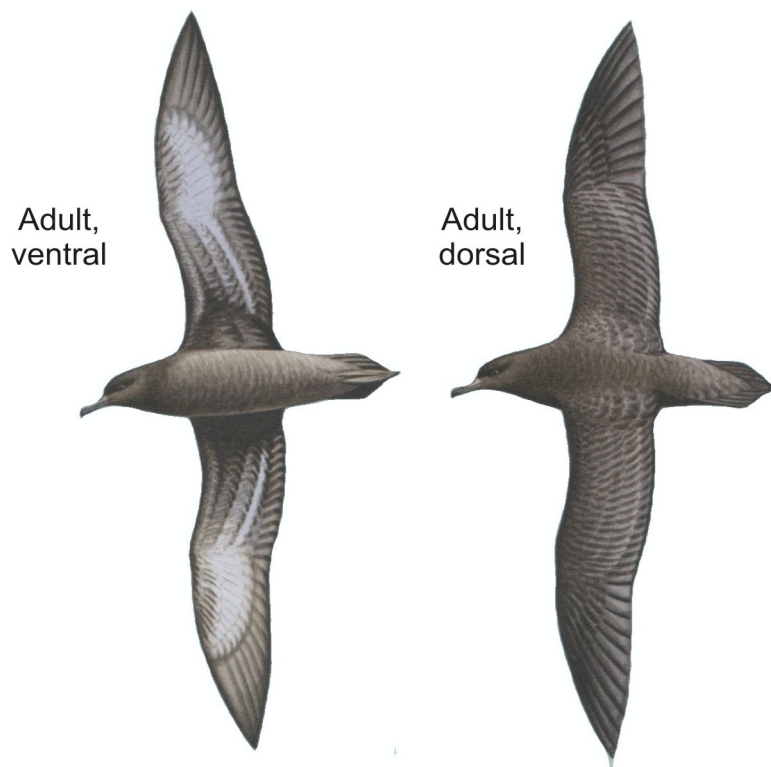


Sooty Shearwater *Ardenna griseus*

Species No.: 70

Band size: 16 SS



Identification:

See illustrations – a large, heavily built shearwater and in flight, feet protrude beyond tail;
Legs and feet predominately dark grey;
Tarsus is stout and distinctly flattened on sides;
Toe nails are dark grey;
Egg width 44 – 52 mm and length 72 – 83 mm.

Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	281 – 307 mm	260 – 308 mm
8 th Primary:	166 – 178 mm	155 – 169 mm
Tail:	82 – 92 mm	83 – 94 mm
Bill:	40.5 – 43.0 mm	41.4 – 43.2 mm
Tarsus:	54 – 60.3 mm	53 – 60.7
Weight:	327 – 978 g	

Ageing:

Breeding adults return to nesting islands in September and come ashore in October to begin cleaning out burrows and eggs are laid from mid-November to early December;
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;
Birds may pair up at 3-4 years, but don't breed until 5-9 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;
Both sexes incubate.