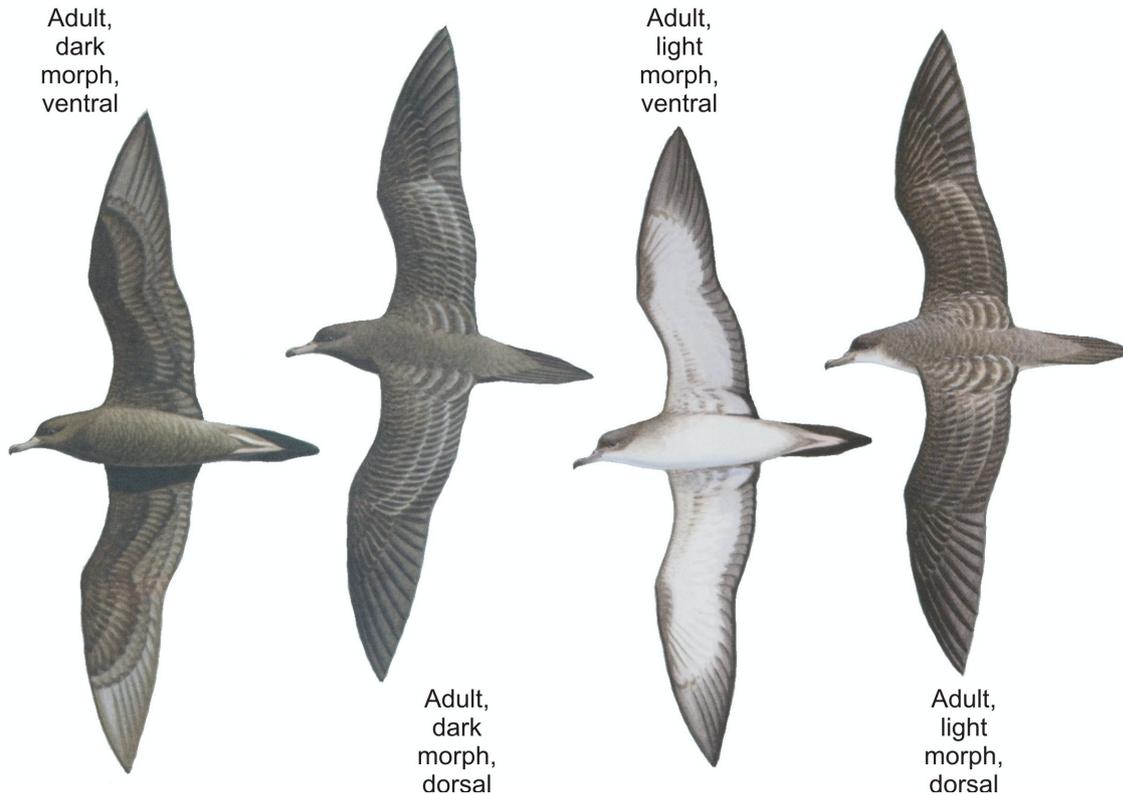


Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Ardenna pacificus* **Species No.: 69** **Band size: 16 SS**



Identification:

See illustrations – a slim bird with a large wedge-shaped tail;
Legs and feet predominately pale, flesh-coloured;
Tarsus is slender and relatively rounded in cross-section;
Toe nails are white;
Egg width 39 - 43 mm and length 57 – 64 mm.

Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	309 – 321 mm	313 – 324 mm
8 th Primary:	193 – 200 mm	194 – 203 mm
Tail:	138 – 144 mm	134 -146 mm
Bill:	41 – 43.8 mm	39.4 – 146 mm
Tarsus:	51.5 – 53.5 mm	50.4 – 52.2 mm
Weight:	415 – 490 g	

Ageing:

First birds return to nesting islands in August and breeding birds prepare burrows from late August to November with pre-laying exodus of about two weeks before returning to lay by mid December; Non-breeding birds (2+) or (5-) return to the vicinity of nesting islands from mid-November Fledglings (1) leave the nesting burrow from mid-April to mid-May and migrate to the northern hemisphere with adults;
No data on pairing or breeding ages, but probably similar to other shearwaters. Non-breeding birds probably establish pair bonds at 3-4 years, but don't breed until at least 5 years old, so all unknown-age nesting birds should be aged (5+).

Sexing:

No sexual dimorphism in size or plumage;
Both sexes incubate.