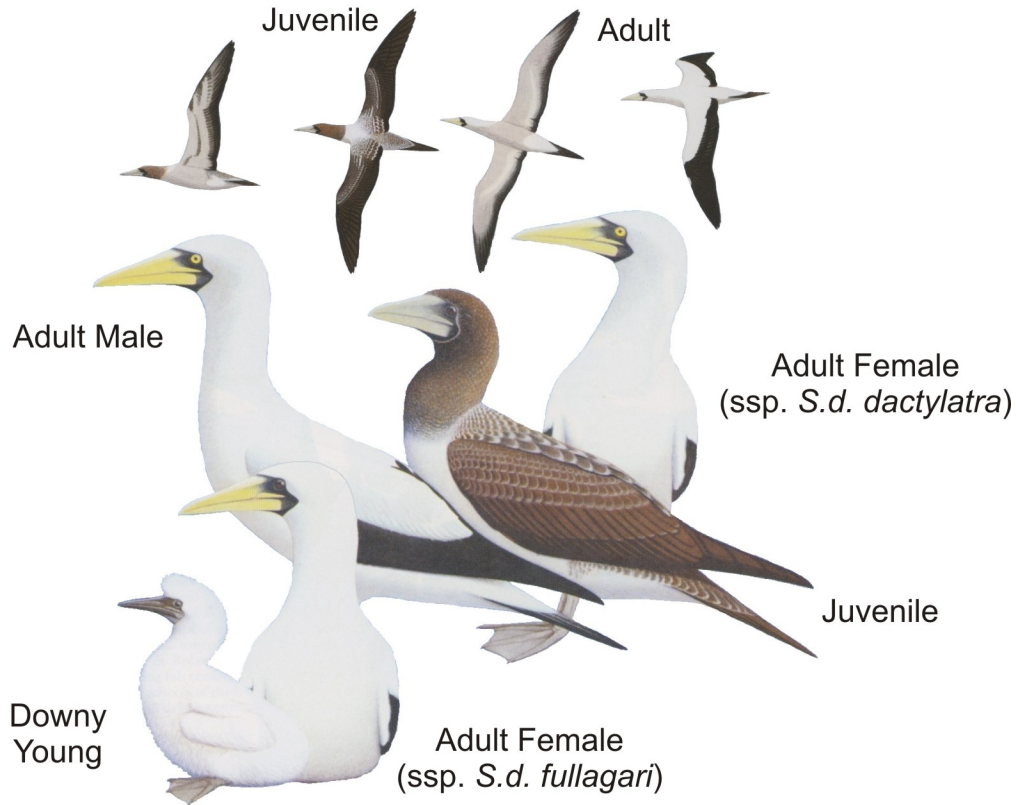


**Masked Booby** *Sula dactylatra* **Species Code: 163** **Band: M/O**



**Status:**

When HANZAB Vol 1 was published in 1990 six subspecies were recognised with three around Australia – ssp. *S.d. bedouti* in the eastern Indian Ocean, ssp. *S.d. personata* in the western Pacific Ocean & seas north of Australia and ssp. *S.d. fullagari* in the Tasman Sea. More recent taxonomy recognises four subspecies – ssp. *S.d. personata* in the central and western Pacific Ocean to the eastern Indian Ocean and ssp. *S.d. tasmani* on the islands of the Tasman Sea.

**Morphometrics:**

The following measurements are for *personata* and *tasmani* (*fullagari*) combined:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	418 – 490 mm	422 – 495 mm
Tail:	165 – 202 mm	172 – 205 mm
Bill (tip to skull):	102 – 114 mm	101 – 112.2 mm
Tarsus:	51 – 66 mm	52 – 67.7 mm
Toe:	91 – 104 mm	89 – 109 mm
Weight:	1510 – 2200 g	1520 – 2700 g

**Ageing:**

Replacement of Juvenile plumage commences at 5.5 – 7 months of age and Immature plumage is gradually whitens;  
 Adult plumage is fully attained at 32 – 33 months, so age Immatures (3-) and Adults (3+).

**Sexing:**

No size or plumage differences, but difference has been recorded in bill colour in e. Aust. waters with colour varying from yellowish-orange, to pink especially in females;  
 Also, in the eastern Indian Ocean males are reported to have dull olive legs and feet in adult males and lead-grey in females;  
 Both sexes incubate

