MOTTLED PETREL (Procellaria muttonensis) *Pacific petrel* **GADFLY PETRELS**

**Mottled Petrel**
- Scientific name: Procellaria muttonensis
- Also known as: Pacific petrel
- Characteristics: Black and white mottled plumage, wings with a distinctive pattern
- Habitat: Open oceans, particularly around islands and coastal areas

**Gadfly Petrels**
- Scientific name: Procellariidae
- Also known as: Shearwaters, Fulmars, PRIONS, and Petrels
- Characteristics: Streamlined bodies, long wings, and short legs
- Habitat: Open oceans, often seen near islands and coastlines

**SHEARWATERS, FULMARS, PRIONS, AND PETRELS**

The Procellariidae family is the largest and most diverse group of seabirds, comprising the shearwaters, fulmars, prions, and petrels. These birds are characterized by their streamlined bodies, long wings, and short legs. They are found in open oceans, particularly around islands and coastal areas. The family is known for its diversity, with more than 80 species and 15 genera.

**Rarified petrels**

The mottled petrel, also known as the Pacific petrel, is a species of petrel found in the Pacific Ocean. It is characterized by its black and white mottled plumage and distinctive wing pattern. The mottled petrel is known to frequent open oceans, particularly around islands and coastal areas. It is a species of conservation concern due to its vulnerability to climate change and other environmental pressures.

**Gadfly petrels**

Gadfly petrels, also known as shearwaters, fulmars, prions, and petrels, are a family of seabirds known for their streamlined bodies, long wings, and short legs. They are found in open oceans, particularly around islands and coastal areas. The family is known for its diversity, with more than 80 species and 15 genera. Gadfly petrels are an important food source for many marine predators and are also used by humans for fishing and harvesting.

**Breeding**

These birds are known to breed in colonies, typically on islands or rocky cliffs. Breeding season varies depending on the species, but generally occurs from late spring to early summer. The female lays a single egg, which is incubated by both parents. After hatching, the chicks are fed by regurgitation and are capable of flying after a few weeks. The birds are known to have a long lifespan, with some species living up to 20 years or more.

**Diet**

Gadfly petrels are opportunistic feeders, feeding on a variety of food sources, including fish, squid, and crustaceans. They are known to dive deep into the ocean to forage for their prey.

**Conservation**

Some species of gadfly petrels are threatened due to habitat loss, climate change, and overfishing. Conservation efforts are focused on protecting their habitats and reducing human impacts on their populations.