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Sooty tern: p 158.

**Sooty Tern** *Onychoprion fuscatus serratus* (J.R.Forster 1830), Native  
1887 Raoul Island, Kermadec Islands  
1790 Norfolk Island

It was painted by Hunter in 1790 on Norfolk Island (Hindwood 1965). Sooty Terns were recorded by T. Bell in late 1887 on Raoul Island, and specimens were also collected by Captain Fairchild on Curtis Island. The first mainland occurrence was in 1918. Thirteen birds in two flocks at Pakiri Beach in July 1986 were exceptional.

Higgins & Davies (1996) synonymised *O. f. kermadeceni* with *O. f. serrata*, but it is currently retained by D.O.C. (Hitchmough et al. 2007). Dickinson (2003) included Norfolk Island and Lord Howe birds with Kermadec birds. Taylor (2000) said the subspecies needed revision. *O. f. kermadeceni* birds did have significantly longer and deeper bills than birds from tropical Australia. Mathews described *kermadeceni* from a bird found in Sydney, Australia which was assumed to have come from the Kermadec Islands, so this subspecies may need to be re-described.