

brunneis; subalaribus albis, margine alari brunneo: rostro saturate corneo; pedibus flavicantibus, digito externo saturatiore. Long. tota circa 17.0, alæ 12.0, caudæ 5.6, culm. 1.45, tarsi 1.85, dig. med. cum ungue 2.15.

♀ a mari vix distinguendus. Long. tota circa 17.0, alæ 11.5. (Descr. maris et feminae ex San Benedicto I. Mus. nostr.)

*Forma obscurior.* Omnino fuliginoso-brunneus, corpore subtus vix cinerascentiore. (Descr. spec. ex San Benedicto I. Mus. nostr.)

*Hab.* LOWER CALIFORNIA, off Cape San Lucas (*Anthony*<sup>6</sup>); REVILLAGIGEDO IS., San Benedicto I., Socorro I. (*Anthony*<sup>4 5 6</sup>).—MEXICO, Maria Madre I. in the Tres Marias group (*Nelson & Goldman*<sup>7</sup>).—KRUSENSTERN I., N. Pacific<sup>1</sup>; VOLCANO IS.<sup>3</sup>; HAWAIIAN IS.<sup>9</sup>.

This Shearwater was discovered on Krusenstern Island by Mr. H. J. Snow<sup>1</sup>, and was afterwards met with by Holst on Sulphur Island, in the Volcano group<sup>3</sup>. Our principal acquaintance with the species rests upon the researches of Mr. A. W. Anthony, who found it in numbers on the Revillagigedo Islands and off the coast of Lower California<sup>3-6</sup>. Mr. Nelson also observed it near the Tres Marias<sup>7</sup>.

The species is dimorphic and has a white-breasted as well as a sooty phase. The latter has been described by Dr. Stejneger as *P. knudseni*, from the Hawaiian Islands<sup>9</sup>; but Mr. Anthony found both forms on San Benedicto, and says that in a series of seventy-five examples every kind of intergradation was noticeable, from specimens with pure white underparts, including the under wing-coverts, to those in grey or sooty-brown plumage. These variations are plainly perceptible in the series in our collection, and it is noteworthy that Mr. Anthony records having taken examples of both phases out of the same hole.

The same observer states that in the summer of 1897 he noticed this species about Socorro Island, but that it was not common there. None were seen at Clarion Island or west of Rocca Partida on this occasion, but subsequently he met with it at sea near the last-mentioned island. Both phases of plumage occurred, the sooty birds outnumbering the light-bellied ones by about two to one. It was not breeding to any extent at the time of his visit, and only a single egg was obtained.

Mr. Nelson saw a considerable number of these Shearwaters at sea between Isabel Island and the Tres Marias, and he judged that they must be rather common in these waters. He noticed several among a flock of Sooty Terns which were following a school of porpoises; but, as a rule, this *Puffinus* is found singly, skimming over the sea, making widely sweeping circuits, and pausing occasionally to pick up food<sup>7</sup>.

Mr. Anthony has given a most interesting account of its habits, the bird having been found in abundance in May and June about Cape San Lucas, and between that point and the Revillagigedo Islands. The southern end of San Benedicto Island was honeycombed with their burrows. He considers that the nesting-season of *P. cuneatus* is at least two months later than that of either *P. opisthomelas* or *P. auricularis*, which both deposit their eggs during the early part of March. A rude attempt at a nest was