



New Bird Records and Migrant Observations from Micronesia, 1977-1984.

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Between March 1982 and May 1984, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) conducted bird surveys in the Northern Mariana and Caroline Islands, Micronesia. The focus of these surveys was to gather baseline data on the resident forest birds, but observations were made on a number of migrant, vagrant and introduced species, some of which represent new records for the various island groups. These new records, along with other noteworthy observations of migrants, are reported herein. Additionally, three new records, two of which are hypothetical, are reported from Palau, where Engbring served as a Peace Corps Volunteer from 1977 to 1979.

Island groups surveyed and dates of observations at each locale were: the Northern Mariana Islands of Rota, Agiguan, Tinian, and Saipan, 19 March to 5 June 1982; Pohnpei, including Ant Atoll, 29 June to 4 July 1981, 10-14 June 1982, and 7 May to 30 June 1983; Kosrae, 30 June to 29 July 1983; Truk, including 18 islands, 31 July to 5 August 1983 and 23 March to 29 April 1984; and Yap, 9-13 August 1983 and 28 April to 29 May 1984. A total of 33 bird observations new to particular island groups were recorded during the survey, with the number per group generally reflecting the amount of previous ornithological work. Observations were made under satisfactory lighting and viewing conditions and by observers familiar with the respective species and their identification. This paper includes documentation of these records and a listing of other migrants observed, except for the Lesser Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*), Wandering Tattler (*Heteroscelus incanus*), Gray-tailed Tattler (*H. brevipes*), Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*), Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*), and Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*). These commoner species were generally found in accordance with their status and distribution as reported in Baker (1951). Four species detailed in this report are considered to be hypothetical records.

USFWS employees who participated in the survey were Celestino Aguon, Philip Ashman, John Engbring, David Jickling, Jim Moore, Peter Pyle, and Fred Ramsey. Marie Morin, formerly of the Hawaii Division of Forestry and Wildlife, also contributed. New island records are highlighted in the species accounts by writing the island name in capitals after the scientific name. Initials of observers who were present at each new record observation are given under the species accounts. For interesting migrant records of previously reported species, the dates and high count observed per island are listed in parentheses following each island group. Bird names and order follow those of the sixth American Ornithologist's Union (AOU) Check-list (1983). For species not included by the AOU, King *et al.* (1975) is used. An asterisk (*) following the island group indicates that an identifiable photograph is on file with the USFWS in Honolulu. In the

following species accounts, reference to occurrence in Micronesia is based on Pyle and Engbring (1985), which is based largely on Owen (1977) and Baker (1951).

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Black-footed Albatross (*Diomedea nigripes*). PALAU (Hypothetical). A large, brownish-black albatross was observed resting on the lagoon on 5 May 1978 (JE). The individual was approached to within 30 m before it flushed, whereupon it flew low over the lagoon and settled again on the water. The bird was slightly paler on the underparts than the upperparts, but otherwise appeared all dark. Binoculars were not in hand when the observation was made, and, although in all probability it was a young Black-footed Albatross, the possibility of a young Short-tailed Albatross (*D. albatrus*) cannot be ruled out; we thus consider this a hypothetical record. In Micronesia, the Black-footed Albatross has been recorded from Wake, the Marshall Islands, and the Northern Marianas.

Wedge-tailed Shearwater (*Puffinus pacificus*). PALAU*. A solitary, brownish-black (dark phase) individual was sitting on the lagoon near Koror Island on 12 July 1978 (JE). The bill was all dark, and the feet were a flesh color. The wings were dark with no evident pattern; the tail was relatively long. The bird was approached to within 3 m and flushed three times. The Wedge-tailed Shearwater has been recorded from all other island groups in Micronesia, but this is the first record from Palau. On 27 June 1978, an all-dark shearwater, possibly this species, was recorded just outside the Palau Lagoon (Pratt and Bruner 1981).

Christmas Shearwater (*Puffinus nativitatis*). KOSRAE. An individual was observed from a fishing vessel about 12 km east of Lelu on 28 July 1982 (PA, JE, DJ, PP). It was in a flock of seabirds which included large numbers of Black Noddies (*Anous minutus*) and Brown Noddies (*A. stolidus*), two or three Audubon's Shearwaters (*P. lherminieri*), and a Wedge-tailed Shearwater. It was midway in size between the Audubon's and Wedge-tailed Shearwaters and had stockier proportions than either. The tail was short and rounded, and the plumage was entirely dark brown, including the underwing lining, which also showed a very slight sheen. The bill was thin, and both it and the legs were black. The flight was buoyant, with more wing-flapping and less gliding and arcing than is typical of the similar Sooty and Short-tailed Shearwaters (*P. griseus* and *P. tenuirostris*). All other shearwaters and large petrels are ruled out by structure and plumage features. In Micronesia, the Christmas Shearwater has been reported from Wake, the Marshall Islands, and the Northern Marianas and would be expected in the vicinity of Kosrae.

Red-footed Booby (*Sula sula*). POHNPEI*. Approximately 2,000 birds were found roosting on Wolauna Island, Ant Atoll on 12 June 1982 and 25 June 1983 (PA, JE, DJ, PP, FR). Active nests were observed on both occasions. An estimated 80-90% of the birds were white phase. A complete account of this and other species found roosting and nesting on Wolauna will be published separately. This is the first documentation of this species in the Pohnpei area, although local residents have long been familiar with the colony. The Red-footed Booby is recorded from most other Micronesian groups.

Lesser Frigatebird (*Fregata ariel*). KOSRAE. Two birds, a male and a female, were seen on 12 July 1983 near Malem (PA). The pair was flying overland toward the ocean. The male was entirely black, except for white patches extending a short distance out onto the underwings from the abdomen. The female had a black throat and upper chest and a white belly. These features distinguish this species from the similar Great Frigatebird (*F. minor*). This is the first occurrence of this species on Kosrae, though records exist from most other Micronesian locales.

Green-backed Heron (*Butorides striatus*). TRUK. An individual was briefly observed in a mangrove area near the north end of Uman on 26 April 1984 (PP). It was flushed across an opening and into a thick stand of mangroves. It was identified by its size (approximately one and a half times that of nearby Yellow Bitterns, *Ixobrychus sinensis*), squat proportions, and grayish upperpart coloration with darker cap. The latter feature is characteristic of the subspecies found in Asia (*B. s. striatus*). As it flew, it raised its crest and gave the distinctive "keeyuk-keeyuk" call characteristic of this species. Green-backed Herons have been recorded from Palau and the Marianas, but this is the first record for Truk.

Cattle Egret (*Bulbulcus ibis*). This widespread species has been reported from all Micronesian island groups, from Pohnpei westward. We observed them in the N. Marianas (25 on Rota and 30 on Tinian, 1-29 Apr 1982), Pohnpei (eight, 8-15 May 1983), Truk* (27 on Moen, 1-5 Aug 1983; 34 on Moen and 1 on Uman, 23 Mar to 29 Apr 1984), and Yap (fifteen, 1-29 May 1984). It has yet to be reported from Kosrae.

Intermediate Egret (*Egretta intermedia*). We recorded this species in the N. Marianas (1 on Rota and 2 on Saipan, 5 Apr to 29 May 1982), Truk* (1 on Moen and 1 on Pata, 8-16 Apr 1984) (Fig. 1), and Yap (four, 1-29 May 1984). In Micronesia, it has previously been recorded from these locales and Palau.



Figure 1. Intermediate Egret (center) with Cattle Egrets. Moen, Truk, 8 April 1984.

Photo by P. Pyle

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*). TRUK. Single adult drakes were observed in a fresh water pond on Romanum, 11 April 1984 (JE, DJ) and in a mangrove area near the north end of Uman on 26 April 1984 (PP). They were easily identified by the characteristic brown head and neck pattern and the distinct long-necked and pin-tailed appearance. We also recorded a drake in the N. Marianas (Tinian, 20 Apr 1982). Though reported before from Palau and the Marianas, this is the first record for Truk.

Oriental Pratincole (*Glareola maldivarum*). We recorded up to six individuals near the old airport on Yap*, 6-29 May 1984 (Fig. 2). A bird collected in June 1978 (Pratt and Bruner 1981) is the only other report of this species from Yap. It has also been recorded in Palau, Truk, and the Marshalls.



Figure 2. Oriental Pratincole. Yap, 15 May 1984.

Photo by P. Pyle

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*). We recorded this species in the N. Marianas (1 on Rota, 31 Mar 1982), Truk (1 on Uman and 1 on Pata, 7-17 Apr 1984) and Yap (two, 4 May 1984). Previous records exist for these groups, Palau, and the Marshalls.

Mongolian Plover (*Charadrius mongolus*). POHNPEI*. Two winter-plumaged birds were seen on the lagoon beaches of Parshaki Is., Ant Atoll on 26 June 1983 (PA, DJ, PP). The birds lacked complete chestbands and had indistinct brown upperparts, black eye lines and gray legs. They also had smaller bills than is typical of the similar Greater Sand-Plover (see below). We also observed Mongolian Plovers in the N. Marianas (6 on Rota and 6 on Saipan, 31 Mar to 15 May 1982), Truk* (16 on Moen, 1 on Dublon, 15 on Uman, and 8 on Onei, 27 Mar to 28 Apr 1984) and Yap* (one, 11-12 Aug 1983 and fifteen, 1-29 May 1984). Pohnpei is the only Micronesian group which lacked previous records.

Greater Sand-Plover (*Charadrius leschenaultii*). TRUK. Two individuals were recorded in a mangrove area near the west end of Onei on 16 April 1984 (JE, PP). They were easily separated from adjacent Mongolian Plovers by larger size, longer and brighter yellow legs, and larger and distinctly-shaped (narrower in the middle) bills. In addition, the plumage features seemed "cleaner" especially about the head, and the call notes were distinct, being a dry turnstone-like "rattle" as opposed to the higher-pitched and shorter "twitters" frequently given by the Mongolian Plovers. We also recorded two individuals near the old airport on Yap*, 1-20 May 1984 (Fig. 3). In Micronesia, this species has been previously recorded from Palau, Yap, the Marianas, and Kosrae.



Figure 3. Greater Sand-Plover (left) with Mongolian Plovers. Yap, 20 May 1984.

Common Redshank (*Tringa totanus*). Two individuals were recorded on Yap*, 11-12 Aug 1983. The species has been previously noted here and in Palau.

Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*). While on Yap*, we recorded three individuals of this species throughout May 1984. Previous records exist from Palau, Yap, the Marianas, and Truk.

Marsh Sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*). TRUK* and YAP. On Truk, two winter-plumaged birds were observed on Moen from 26 March to 29 April 1984, one frequenting the airport runway and the other, a small muddy area in Pou bay near the high school. The latter bird was joined by a third bird in breeding plumage on 28 April (JE, DJ, JM, PP). On Yap, an individual in breeding plumage was recorded near the old airport from 28 April to 1 May 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP). Identifying characteristics included long, greenish legs and thin, black bill; mostly white tail and white triangle up the back; and call note, a high-pitched and sharp "tchew-tchew-tchew." The winter-plumaged birds were very pale, with darker wings. The breeding-plumaged birds had grayer backs and fine streaking on the upper breasts. This species has been reported previously in Palau and the Marianas; these are the first records for Truk and Yap.

Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*). TRUK. Three birds were noted in the antenna field adjacent to the airport on Moen on 30 March 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP). They were medium-sized and had dark gray upperparts with white speckling, white eye rings and white rumps in flight. Their distinctive "jif-jif-jif" calls were heard as they circled the field after being flushed. We also recorded this species in the N. Marianas (9 on Tinian, 24 Apr to 1 May 1982) and Yap (five, 11-12 Aug 1983 and six, 28 Apr to 10 May 1984). Though previously recorded from Palau, Yap and the Marianas, this is the first report from Truk.

Terek Sandpiper (*Xenus cinereus*). YAP*. An individual was observed near the mouth of Colonia Harbor on 13-16 May 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP). The longish, up-turned bill; short, bright yellow legs; plain, gray upperparts; wide, white trailing edge to the wings in flight; and active feeding behavior were observed and are diagnostic for this species. It has been reported before from Palau and the Marianas; this is the first record from Yap.

Bristle-thighed Curlew (*Numenius tahitiensis*). Bristle-thighed Curlews were observed on Wolauna Island, Ant Atoll, Pohnpei* (two, 12 Jun 1982 and three, 25 Jun 1983), and in Truk* (2 on Moen, 23 Mar to 10 Apr 1984). The species has been recorded previously from both locales and throughout most of Micronesia.

Far Eastern Curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*). TRUK* and YAP*. This species was recorded near the mouth of Colonia Harbor (one bird) and at the airport (two birds), Yap, on 12-13 August 1983 (JE, FR). On Truk, an individual was observed in a mangrove area near the north end of Uman on 7 and 26 April 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP). The birds were identified by their large size; uniform brown coloration of the head, back, underwings and tail; very long and decurved bills; and husky "cur-lew" call notes. Though recorded previously from Palau and the Marianas, these are the first observations from Truk and Yap.

Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*). TRUK. An emaciated individual was observed in a mangrove area near the north end of Uman on 7 April 1984 (JE, PP). It had plain gray upperparts and, in flight, bold white wing stripes and a white rump with a broad, black, terminal tail band. It also had white underwing linings, which rules out the similar Hudsonian Godwit (*L. haemastica*). We also recorded a bird at Okat Harbor, Kosrae* throughout most of July 1983 (Fig. 4). In Micronesia, this species is known from Palau, Yap, Guam, and Kosrae. This is the first report for Truk.



Figure 4. Black-tailed Godwit. Okat Harbor, Kosrae, July 1983.

Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*). This trans-pacific migrant has been recorded throughout the islands of the Central Pacific. We observed them on Kosrae (three, through July 1983) and Truk (3 on Moen, 5 on Uman, 1 on Onei, 3 flying between Pata and Polle, and 1 on Udot, 26 Mar to 26 Apr 1984).

Great Knot (*Calidris tenuirostris*). TRUK. An individual was noted in a mangrove area near the north end of Uman on 7 April 1984 (JE, PP). It was identified by its relatively large and chunky size, long bill, scaled gray and white upperpart plumage, white rump in flight, and heavy, splotchy streaking to the upper breast. In Micronesia, it was previously recorded only from Palau.

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*). POHNPEI* and TRUK. Sanderlings were recorded on Wolauna Island, Ant Atoll, Pohnpei on 25 June 1983 (2 birds; PA, JE, DJ, PP) and on a sand spit at the north end of Siis, Truk on 25 April 1984 (JM, PP). All birds were in winter plumage; we noted the stocky proportions, white plumage features, and black shoulder patches. We also found a summer plumaged bird at Okat Harbor, Kosrae, on 1 July 1983. Pohnpei and Truk were the only Micronesian groups lacking previous records.

Rufous-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*). TRUK*. We recorded 14 individuals of this species in Truk: 10 on Uman, 3 on Onei, and 1 on Pata, from 7-26 April 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP). Many were entering breeding plumage, and these were easily separated from other stint species by the rufous wash present on the throat, neck, and upper breast. Birds in winter plumage were carefully distinguished from the similar Little Stint (*C. minuta*) by their stouter proportions, shorter and stouter bills, and high-pitched call notes. Up to 33 Rufous-necked Stints were also observed near the old airport and elsewhere on Yap* throughout May 1984. This species has been recorded from Palau, the Marianas, and Yap. This is the first record for Truk.

Long-toed Stint (*Calidris subminuta*). TRUK* and YAP*. Three individuals were found on Truk: 2 around the airport on Moen and 1 near the north end of Uman, 31 March to 26 April 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP). On Yap, up to 3 individuals frequented ponds near the old airport, 28 April to 17 May 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP). The birds had slender proportions for stints, yellow legs, and brown upperpart coloration with slightly redder caps and distinct patterning of the scapulars. The combination of these features eliminates all other small sandpipers. Previously reported from Palau and the Marianas, these are the first records for Truk and Yap.

Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*). NORTHERN MARIANAS. A bird was observed around cattle ponds in the Carolinas District, Tinian on 27 April 1982 (CA, PA, JE, PP). The medium size and erect posture; brown, scaly upperparts lacking rufous; densely streaked upper breast abruptly ending in the pectoral region; and yellow legs were observed and eliminate all other species. We also observed a Pectoral Sandpiper in the Madolenihmw District, Pohnpei, on 29 May 1983. In Micronesia, this species has been previously reported from Palau, Pohnpei, and the Marshalls.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*). This species has been recorded in all Micronesian groups. We observed them in the N. Marianas (1 on Rota, 20 April 1982), Truk (8 on Moen, 6 on Uman, 3 on Onei; 30 Mar to 26 April 1984), and Yap (four, 28 April to 20 May 1984).

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*). YAP*. One bird was seen at the antenna field near the old airport on 11-12 August 1983 (JE, FR). The relatively long, decurved, black bill and medium size were noted. The bird was an adult and still retained portions of its summer breeding plumage, notably, reddish splotches on the head, neck and breast. The combination of these characters is distinctive. In Micronesia, this species has previously been recorded only from Palau.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*). POHNPEI*. One individual was present on recently burned, open fields near Kolonia from 10-13 May 1983 (JE, MM). Field traits included rich brown upperparts, the feathers distinctly edged with buff; uniform buffy head (including cap), neck and breast; buffy belly, somewhat paler than the breast; relatively short, dark bill; and yellow legs. In flight, the upperparts were all dark, with no white pattern on the wing or tail; the underwings were white with black marks near the elbows. The bird was smaller and more slender than the Lesser Golden-Plovers (*Pluvialis dominica*) with which it associated. The Buff-breasted Sandpiper is a Nearctic species and a vagrant in Micronesia. It has previously been recorded here only in the Marshalls.

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*). TRUK*. A female was observed in the vicinity of the airport on Moen, 24 March to 20 April 1984

(JE, DJ, JM, PP). Its medium size; longish, straight bill; brown upperparts with two white ovals on the sides of the rump in flight; and distinctive, short-necked posture were noted. Ruffs have been recorded in Palau and the Marianas. This is the first record from Truk.

Swinhoe's Snipe (*Gallinago megala*). TRUK* and YAP. Snipes carefully identified as this species were recorded in the antenna field adjacent to the airport, Moen, Truk on 26-30 March 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP) and near the old airport on Yap, 1 May 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP). The birds were large; lacked white in the trailing edge of the wings; had dark and distinctly patterned upperpart plumage features; flew with a direct and "heavy" flight; and gave distinct, relatively high-pitched call notes transcribed "tsaayp." The lack of white in the trailing edge and straight flight pattern rule out Common (*G. gallinago*) and Latham's (*G. hardwickii*) Snipes, and we feel the call notes, heaviness of flight and distinct back patterning eliminates the very similar Pintail Snipe (see below). We also identified Swinhoe's Snipes, using the same criteria, in the N. Marianas (2 on Tinian, 29 Apr to 9 May 1982). Records of this species exist from Palau and the Marianas. These are the first records for Truk and Yap.

Pintail Snipe (*Gallinago stenura*). NORTHERN MARIANAS (Hypothetical). Snipes hypothetically identified as this species were studied in the Pontan-Asufani District, Rota, on 1-5 April 1982 (2 birds) and in a cattle pond of the Mogoyo District, Tinian, on 4 May 1982 (CA, PA, JE, PP). The birds lacked a white trailing edge on the wings and flew straight and direct. Weaker call notes, transcribed "scaauh;" "lighter" and more rapid flight behavior; and paler, less distinct upperpart patterning were field characteristics noted and used to separate these from the Swinhoe's Snipe, which was seen during the same week as the 4 May bird (Pyle and Ashman unpublished ms.). Pintail Snipe has yet to be confirmed in Micronesia, but has been recorded on Kure in the Hawaiian Islands (Clapp and Woodward 1968).

Franklin's Gull (*Larus pipixcan*). TRUK*. A bird in adult plumage was seen at Moen Harbor on 2-4 August 1983 (JE, FR) (Fig. 5). Clearly seen were the black head, uniform gray upperparts with a white trailing edge on the wings, dusky red bill, and black feet. The wing-tips were white with a subterminal black band. These features eliminate several similar species. The Franklin's Gull, a vagrant from the Americas, has been recorded once in Micronesia, in 1976 in the Marshalls (Anderson 1978). The present record extends the known westward occurrence of the species here by nearly 2,000 km.



Figure 5. Franklin's Gull. Moen, Truk. 2 August 1983.

Photo by Fred Ramsey

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*). TRUK and YAP*. Individuals were noted off Fefan, Truk, on 4 April 1984 (JE, PP) and around Colonia Harbor, Yap, 2-28 May 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP). The birds were medium-sized and had angular wings and deeply-forked tails, as is typical of the genus *Sterna*. They had opaque gray backs and upperwings, relatively large black bills and legs, and indistinctly defined black borders to the tips of the underwings. The Yap bird, which was often observed plunging-diving for food, also had black shoulder patches indicating a first year individual. These traits eliminate all other tern species including the Black-naped (*S. sumatrana*), Arctic (*S. paradisaea*), and Roseate (*S. dougallii*) Terns. In Micronesia, records of Common Tern exist from Palau and the Marianas. These records are the first for Truk and Yap.

Little Tern (*Sterna albifrons*). TRUK. Individuals of this species were observed feeding off Fefan on 4 April 1984 and off Polle on 18 April 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP). They were identified by their small size and distinctive short-winged shape, diving feeding behavior, and white rumps and tails. The latter feature was used to separate them from the very similar Least Tern (*S. antillarum*). In Micronesia, Little Terns have been recorded from Palau, the Marianas, and Pohnpei, and Hayes (1985) records this species or Least Tern from Kosrae. This observation is the first from Truk.

Rock Dove (*Columba livia*). POHNPEI and TRUK. Small groups of pigeons were observed around Kolonia, Pohnpei in July 1981 and in May-June 1983, and near the Continental Hotel, Moen, Truk in March-April 1984 (PA, JE, DJ, JM, PP). The birds were free-flying but were probably domestic, as they seemed to rely on humans for food. Residents at both locales informed us that increasing numbers of this species were being kept as pets, and wild populations may eventually become established. This is the first time Rock Doves have been reported from either group, though they have evidently been kept as pets on these islands in the past (R. Owen, pers. comm.).

Long-tailed Cuckoo (*Eudynamis taitensis*). This migrant from New Zealand has been recorded in all Micronesian groups except the Marianas. We recorded them on Kosrae (three, 6-26 Jul 1983), Pohnpei (one, 1 Jul 1981), and Truk (1 on South Tol and 1 on North Tol, 13-15 Apr 1984).

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*). YAP (Hypothetical). On 12 May 1984, on Gagil-Tomil, we found an owl pellet on the ground in open savanna. The pellet contained fur and bones of a rodent and measured 50 × 30 × 30 mm. In years past, there have been reports of an occasional owl on the island (M. Falanruw, pers. comm.), and there are indeed several species of Asiatic owls that could reach Yap. A likely candidate is the Short-eared Owl, a savanna or grassland species which is recorded as a migrant in the Marianas and the Philippines. Based on the habitat in which the pellet was found and the size of the pellet, we have hypothetically identified the owl as a Short-eared Owl.

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*). Two birds were recorded near the Yap airport, 12-13 August 1983. The species has previously been reported from all Micronesian groups except Kosrae.

Great Reed-Warbler (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*). PALAU (Hypothetical). A large reed-warbler was heard and observed in a vacant lot of a residential area of Koror on 21 December 1977 (JE). The bird voiced a loud and continuous song similar to the song of the Nightingale Reed Warbler (*A. luscinia*) found in other parts of Micronesia. The bird was secretive and remained within coarse, tall grass; it was briefly attracted into the open by

squeaking noises. The upperparts were a buffy-brown, and the underparts were a pale buff. No distinct markings were noticed. Based on its size, song, and color, the individual was identified as a Great Reed-Warbler, a common migrant to Japan and the Philippines. However, there are several similar species, all unfamiliar to the observer, which could reach the Western Carolines as migrants, for example, the Thick-billed Reed Warbler (*A. aedon*) or the Clamorous Reed-Warbler (*A. stentoreus*). Thus, this remains a hypothetical record.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*). YAP*. On 9-12 August 1983, several small flocks were noted in the town of Colonia, and two to four birds were seen in the antenna field near the airport (JE, FR). At least this many were noted again in May 1984 (JE, DJ, JM, PP). They showed the rusty cap and black ear mark that separates this species from the similar House Sparrow (*P. domesticus*). Evidence of breeding (young begging from parents) was noted on both occasions, indicating an established and possibly growing population. This species has become established in Micronesia in the Marianas and Marshalls. Its introduction to Yap is apparently recent, as it was not recorded in 1976 by Pratt *et al.* (1977).

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