

FIRST RECORD OF THE ERECT-CRESTED PENGUIN *EUDYPTES SCLATERI* FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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The Erect-crested Penguin, which breeds on Campbell I., Antipodes Is. and Bounty I., has been reported as a rare straggler to Western Australia, Victoria, Tasmania and New South Wales (Serventy *et al.* 1971, Condon 1975), but has not previously been recorded from South Australia.

On 21 March 1965, Mr. Trevor Hutchins (brother of the first author), came upon a penguin standing on rocks near the sea on Granite Island, Victor Harbour. His photograph of the bird is reproduced here. The photograph (a coloured slide) was subsequently identified as that of a Thick-billed Penguin *Eudyptes pachyrhynchus* and the record published under this name (Hutchins 1972).

We recently re-examined the slide, and concluded that the bird in question was not a Thick-billed Penguin but an Erect-crested Penguin. We sent a print from the slide to the authority on this group, Dr. John Warham of the University of Canterbury, New Zealand.



He replied (*in litt.* 27 July 1976): 'I believe that the bird in your photograph was an Erect-crested Penguin from the following points:—

1. The triangular shape of the throat region is typical of this species (see my paper in *Ardea*, 60 : 145-184 (1972)).
2. The crest looks right (other eudyptids, however may have rather erect crests during or after moult).
3. The bill looks brownish not reddish brown.
4. Culmen ridge looks rather straight.
5. Flippers are long — a characteristic of *sclateri* — with some white along leading edge.
6. The under flipper looks heavily marked, judging by what can be seen of the right one.

A seventh point, mentioned by Dr. Warham elsewhere (Warham 1975 : 193) is that the superciliary band appears to rise towards the gape, lower down than in the similar Thick-

billed and Snares Island Penguins. Dr. Warham concluded that the bird in the photograph was possibly a two-year-old.

Condon (1975) followed Oliver (1953) in using the name *Eudyptes atratus* Finsch and Hutton for the Erect-crested Penguin. We follow Watson (1971), Lemche (1972) and Warham (1975) in suggesting that the name *sclateri* should be retained for this species.

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