

BIRD NOTES**SPOTLESS CRAKE IN FLINDERS CHASE**

— On January 28, 1977, I was standing beside Rocky River, in Flinders Chase National Park, Kangaroo Island, when a Spotless Crake *Porzana tabuensis* emerged from among reeds at the water's edge. Searching for food, it seemed unaware of my presence and for a while came within 7 m. For much of the time the crake was in the open and its dark bill, grey head, dark brown unspotted back, and red legs could be clearly seen. Its behaviour, including sudden dashes forward, suggested that the bird was finding small invertebrates, but I could not see the prey. After perhaps five minutes the crake disappeared again among reeds. The time was 0830, and the site about 30 m upstream of Rocky River Waterhole, not far from the National Park ranger's house.

This is apparently the first time this species has been recorded from Flinders Chase; indeed the only previous record for Kangaroo Island seems to be the revised identification of a clutch of eggs in the South Australian Museum (Parker and Lashmar, 1976).—JOHN SEYMOUR.

REFERENCE

Parker, S. A. and Lashmar, A. F. C., 1976. Some notes on the birds of Kangaroo Island. *S. Aust. Orn.* 27:123.

Accepted November, 1977