

From: Birds Queensland Rarities Appraisal Committee (BQ RAC)

Date: 23 March 2020

Submission No 210: Little Ringed Plover, *Charadrius dubius*, submitted by Elliot Leach

This submission details the sighting of a Little Ringed Plover, *Charadrius dubius*, at the Wunjunga Wetlands, near Burdekin, north Queensland at approximately 19°47'29.53"S, 147°34'24.74"E, on the 17th February 2020. The description and supporting photographs clearly depict an adult Little Ringed Plover in pre-alternate moult. The white hindcollar, complete black breast band, black bill, yellow orbital ring and orangey legs were all noted. Members voted unanimously in favour of acceptance this record.

This species was separated from similar species, including Common Ringed Plover, *Charadrius hiaticula*, by the blackish bill and yellow orbital ring. An adult Ringed Plover in breeding plumage has a bicoloured bill, with a yellow base and black tip, and lacks a yellow orbital ring. Similarly, the black bill allowed separation from Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmaticus*), which has a bicoloured bill similar to that of Ringed Plover in breeding plumage.

This is the first record of Little Ringed Plover to be accept by the Birds Queensland Rarities Appraisal Committee. There are only two previous records of Little Ringed Plover to be accepted by the Birdlife Australia Rarities Committee from between 1997 and 2003. These BARC case 236 and 413 respectively.

References

Hayman, P., J. Marchant & T. Prater. 1986. *Shorebirds: An identification guide to the waders of the world*. Bromley, Kent: Christopher Helm Publishing.

Menkhorst, P., D. Rogers, R. Clarke, J. Davies, M. Marsack, & K. Franklin. 2017. *The Australian Bird Guide*. Collingwood, Victoria: CSIRO Publishing.

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