

seems reasonable that the availability of such reservoirs in northern Mexico and in the southwestern United States has contributed to the recent success of the species in the region.

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BROAD-BILLED PRION AT MOLLENDO, PERU: FIRST RECORD FOR THE PACIFIC COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA

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While checking the tidelines on a beach near Mollendo (Dept. Arequipa), Perú, on 3 October 1980, I found a two-to-three month old carcass of a Broad-billed Prion (*Pachyptila vittata*) among several dead Slender-billed Prions (*P. belcheri*). Its very broad flat bill (width 21.6 mm) was unmistakable and further identified it as the subspecies *P. v. vittata*.

Realizing that this species was hitherto unrecorded from the west coast of South America, I retrieved the skull and sent it to Manuel A. Plenge of Lima, Perú, who forwarded

it to the Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, where the identification was confirmed and where it is now deposited (LSUMZ 97456).

The Broad-billed Prion is known to breed at Tristan da Cunha and Gough islands in the southern Indian Ocean and on several islands in the New Zealand region, it being most likely that the Mollendo bird originated in the latter area.

For many years there was only one questionable record of this species in South America, from Porto Seguro, Bahia, Brazil (Ihering and Ihering, *As aves do Brasil, Catalogo da Fauna Brasileira* 1:38, 1907). Recently several specimens have been collected along the Argentine coast and are now lodged in the U.S. National and San Diego museums of natural history. The likely source of all these Atlantic coast birds would appear to be Tristan da Cunha.

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