

SOUTHERNMOST RECORD OF THE MAGELLANIC PENGUIN *SPHENISCUS MAGELLANICUS* IN ANTARCTICA

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Received 15 June 2006, accepted 4 November 2006

The Magellanic Penguin *Spheniscus magellanicus* breeds along the southern South American coast from Cape Horn to central Chile on the Pacific coast and to central Argentina on the Atlantic coast. It also breeds in the Falkland Islands at 54°S (del Hoyo *et al.* 1992, Williams 1995). During winter, the non-breeding distribution extends northwards as far as 30°S on the Pacific Chilean coast and to southern Brazil (23°S) on the Atlantic (del Hoyo *et al.* 1992). There are vagrant non-breeding records from Australia and New Zealand (Marchant & Higgins 1990), sub-Antarctic South Georgia (Prince & Croxall 1996 and references therein), maritime Antarctic Signy Island, South Orkney Islands (Rootes 1988) and Admiralty Bay, King George Island, South Shetland Islands (62°10'S) off the northern extremity of the Antarctic Peninsula (Trivelpiece *et al.* 1987). This last record, of a juvenile bird seen on 17 January 1984, represents the most southerly published record to date.



Fig. 1. Magellanic Penguin *Spheniscus magellanicus* seen at Avian Island, Antarctic Peninsula, close to an Adélie Penguin *Pygoscelis adeliae*.

We photographed a single Magellanic Penguin on Avian Island (67°46'S, 68°43'W), Marguerite Bay, Antarctic Peninsula on 18 February 2006 in the presence of Adélie Penguins *Pygoscelis adeliae*. The bird was completing its moult into adult plumage and appeared to be healthy (Fig. 1). From the pale brown appearance of the few old feathers still attached to the bird, it is likely, but not completely certain, that it was in juvenile plumage when it commenced its moult. This observation extends the known range of the species 785 km to the south.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We acknowledge funding received from the CGL2004-01348 and CGL2004-22025-E/ANT projects of the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science. Logistic support was provided by the Spanish Antarctic Base Gabriel de Castilla and the Spanish Polar Ship *Las Palmas*. We thank Fernando Calvo and Joaquin González del Castillo for help in the field.

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