

Grey-bellied Brent Goose *Branta bernicæ* ssp. (0, 0, 2). **RV**

Alternative name: Lawrence's Brent Goose.

(Breeds central Arctic Canada, mainly Melville Island, winters Puget Sound, American west coast around the U.S./Canada border).

Grey-bellied Brent Goose has been suggested as a possible fourth subspecies of Brent Goose. However, it has yet to be formally published as such. Despite this, it does seem to represent a stable form and Shields (1990) has proposed it is a valid taxon on the basis of preliminary DNA analysis and morphology and concluded it is not an example of a stable hybrid population. A number of individuals showing characteristics of this form have also been observed in the Republic of Ireland.

Shields, G.F. 1990. Analysis of mitochondrial DNA of Pacific Black Brant. *The Auk* 107: 620-623.

Published records:

2006

One: Dundrum, Newcastle, County Down, 21st to 23rd April. *NIBA* 2008a.

Two: One adult and one immature. Killough, County Down, 11th to 13th May (Chris Murphy, Stuart McKee). *NIBA* 2008a. **R**

2008

One. Adult. Killough Harbour, Killough, County Down, 11th to 13th April (George Gordon, Chris Murphy). *NIBA* 2008b. **R**