

SHORT NOTE

First record of the Pectoral Sandpiper in Fiji

On several occasions in mid-November 1988 I saw and photographed a Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*) wading about and feeding in a shallow tidal pool between mangrove swamp, sugar cane fields and a gravel road by the settlement of Maqalevu about 4 km NW of Nadi, Vitilevu, Fiji. This species has not previously been recorded in Fiji.

Pectoral Sandpipers breed in arctic America and Siberia and winter primarily in South America. Small numbers migrate regularly to New Zealand and Australia. There are scattered records from Micronesia and eastern Polynesia (Pratt *et al.* 1987) and a record from Norfolk Island (Moore 1985), but there are no records from Melanesia, even though these birds must cross Melanesia if they follow the shortest possible migration routes from their arctic breeding grounds to eastern Australia and New Zealand.

LITERATURE CITED

- MOORE, J. L. 1985. Norfolk Island notes 1968 to 1984. *Notornis* 32: 311-318.
PRATT, H. D.; BRUNER, P. L.; BERRETT, D. G. 1987. *A Field Guide to the Birds of Hawaii and the Tropical Pacific*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

[A colour print supplied confirms the identity of this bird - Ed.]

WILLIAM N. BECKON, *Department of Zoology, University of California, Davis, California 95616, U.S.A.*