

Parasitic Jaeger *Stercorarius parasiticus*



Folk Name: (none)

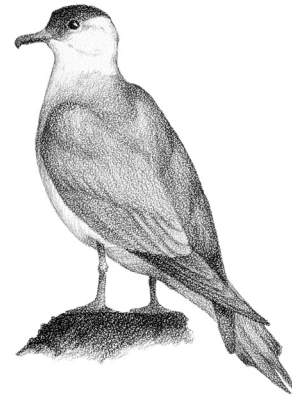
Status: Migrant

Abundance: Accidental

Habitat: Open water

The Parasitic Jaeger is a couple inches smaller than the Pomarine Jaeger. Its body appears less bulky, and its wings are more streamlined. It has short 2- to 4-inch pointed central tail feathers, whereas the central tail feathers of the Pomarine are 3 to 4 inches long and rounded.

The Parasitic Jaeger migrates somewhat closer to shore than the other jaegers and is therefore generally more likely to show up at inland locations; however, there is only a single record of a Parasitic Jaeger wandering into the Central Carolinas. David and Marcia Wright, Rob Van Epps, and Taylor Piephoff found it while birding by boat on Lake Norman in Mecklenburg County on September 11, 2004. The bird was believed to have been forced



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inland by winds associated with Tropical Storm Frances. This sighting was recognized as “about” the fourth North Carolina record of Parasitic Jaeger from an inland county in North Carolina.