

Field Notes

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Birds of Tawharanui



Compliments of
Tawharanui Open Sanctuary Society Inc.



Field Notes

A series of horizontal dotted lines for taking field notes.

BIRD CHECKLIST

Tawharanui Open Sanctuary is a living landscape, which integrates conservation with recreation and farming. The project is a partnership between the community and the Auckland

Regional Council (ARC). It recognises the importance of providing opportunities for people to see and hear native species such as kiwi, brown teal, kaka, bellbirds, whiteheads and robins on the Auckland mainland. As the Open Sanctuary develops, more native birds will return of their own accord or be reintroduced.

Tawharanui is a wonderful place to see birds. Over the last 30 years, 89 species have been recorded in and around the park, or just offshore. While some species such as NZ dotterel and shining cuckoo are present in certain seasons, many others can be seen year round, because they are non-migratory and because Tawharanui and the wider area provide a diverse range of habitats.

The key is knowing what to look for, where and when. 'Birds of Tawharanui' produced by TOSSI does just this. Take this checklist out with you when you next go to Tawharanui and enjoy the special experience that is the Tawharanui Open Sanctuary. To confirm your sightings, and for further information about the birds, a useful reference is Heather & Robertson "The Field Guide to the Birds of New Zealand". This list is a compilation of records from the ARC, TOSSI, the Ornithological Society of New Zealand and a number of other observers.

Report unusual sightings to: ARC (09) 366 2000

TAWHARANUI BIRD CHECKLIST

Names (with Maori names) and major habitats

STATUS KEY

E - endemic

N - native

I - introduced species

B - resident and breeding

B+ - reintroduced breeding species

S - at sea or offshore

V - vagrant or visiting species

KIWI

North Island brown kiwi **E,B+**

Apteryx mantelli

Bush, scrub, open country

ALBATROSSES, SHEARWATERS and PETRELS

Black-browed mollymawk (Toroa) **N,S**

Thalassarche melanophrys

Offshore in winter

Salvin's mollymawk **E,S**

Thalassarche salvini

Offshore in winter

Yellow-nosed mollymawk **V,S**

Thalassarche chlororhynchos

Offshore in winter

Flesh-footed shearwater (Toanui) **N,S**

Puffinus carneipes

Offshore in summer

- Buller's shearwater (Rako) **E,S**
Puffinus bulleri
Offshore in summer
- Sooty shearwater (Titi) **N,S**
Puffinus griseus
Offshore in summer
- Fluttering shearwater (Pakaha) **E,S**
Puffinus gavia
Offshore year round
- Diving petrel (Kuaka) **N,S**
Pelecanoides urinatrix
Offshore year round
- Black petrel (Taiko) **E,S**
Procellaria parkinsoni
Offshore in summer
- Cape pigeon **V,S**
Daption capense
Offshore in winter
- Northern giant petrel (Pangurunguru) **N,S**
Macronectes halli
Offshore in winter
- Fairy prion (Titi wainui) **N,S**
Pachyptila turtur
Offshore year round
- Cook's petrel (Titi) **E,S**
Pterodroma cookii
Offshore in summer; passes overhead at night

- Greenfinch **I,B**
Carduelis chloris
Bush, scrub, plantings, pasture
- Goldfinch **I,B**
Carduelis carduelis
Bush, scrub, plantings, pasture
- Redpoll **I,B?**
Carduelis flammea
Scrub, plantings, dunes
- House sparrow **I,B**
Passer domesticus
Plantings, pasture, around buildings
- Starling **I,B**
Sturnus vulgaris
Bush, plantings, pasture, around buildings
- Common myna **I,B**
Acridotheres tristis
Bush, plantings, pasture, around buildings
- Australian magpie **I,B**
Gymnorhina tibicen
Bush, plantings, pasture

- Grey warbler (Riroriro) **E,B**
Gerygone igata
Bush, scrub, plantings
- Fantail (Piwakawaka) **N,B**
Rhipidura fuliginosa
Bush, scrub, plantings
- North Island tomtit (Miromiro) **E,V**
Petroica macrocephala toitoi
Bush, scrub
- North Island robin (Toutouwai) **E,B+**
Petroica australis longipes
Bush, scrub
- Silvereye (Tauhou) **N,B**
Zosterops lateralis
Bush, scrub, plantings
- Bellbird (Korimako) **E,B**
Anthornis melanura
Bush, scrub, plantings
- Tui **E,B**
Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae
Bush, scrub, plantings
- Yellowhammer **I,B**
Emberiza citrinella
Bush edge, scrub, plantings, pasture
- Chaffinch **I,B**
Fringilla coelebs
Bush, scrub, plantings, pasture

- Grey-faced petrel (Oi) **N,B**
Pterodroma macroptera
Offshore year round
Possible winter breeder on cliff tops and stacks
- White-faced storm petrel (Takahikare moana) **N,S**
Pelagodroma marina
Offshore in summer

PENGUINS

- Blue penguin (Korora) **N,B**
Eudyptula minor
Offshore year round
Summer breeder along rocky coasts

GANNETS and BOOBIES

- Gannet (Takapu) **N,S**
Morus serrator
Offshore year round

SHAGS

- Black shag (Kawau) **N,V**
Phalacrocorax carbo
Coast, lagoon, wetlands
- Pied shag (Karuhiruhi) **N,B**
Phalacrocorax varius
Coast, lagoon
- Little black shag **N,V**
Phalacrocorax sulcirostris
Coast, lagoon
- Little shag (Kawaupaka) **N,V**
Phalacrocorax melanoleucos
Coast, lagoon, wetlands

HERONS and BITTERNs

White-faced heron **N,B**
Ardea novaehollandiae
Coast, lagoon, wetlands, pasture

Reef heron (Matuku-moana) **N,B?**
Egretta sacra
Rocky coast, lagoon

Bittern (Matuku-hurepo) **N,B?**
Botaurus poiciloptilus
Wetlands, drains

IBISES and SPOONBILLS

Royal spoonbill (Kotuku-ngutupapa) **N,V**
Platalea regia
Lagoon

SWANS, GEESE and DUCKS

Grass whistling duck **V**
Dendrocygna eytoni
Lagoon, wetlands, pasture

Black swan **I,V**
Cygnus atratus
Lagoon

Paradise shelduck (Putangitangi) **E,B**
Tadorna variegata
Coast, lagoon, wetlands, bush, pasture

Mallard **I,B**
Anas platyrhynchos
Wetlands, lagoon, pasture

PASSERINES

Skylark **I,B**
Alauda arvensis
Pasture, gravel roads

Welcome swallow **N,B**
Hirundo tahitica
Coast, lagoon, wetlands, pasture, buildings

Fairy martin **V**
Hirundo ariel
Bush edge, pasture

New Zealand pipit (Pihoihoi) **E,B**
Anthus novaeseelandiae
Pasture, beaches, gravel roads

Dunnock **I,B**
Prunella modularis
Bush, scrub, plantings

Blackbird **I,B**
Turdus merula
Bush, scrub, plantings, pasture

Song thrush **I,B**
Turdus philomelos
Bush, scrub, plantings, pasture

Fernbird (Matata) **E,V**
Bowdleria punctata
Scrub, wetlands

Whitehead (Popokatea) **E,B+**
Mohoua albicilla
Bush, scrub, plantings

PARROTS



North Island kaka **E,B**

Nestor meridionalis septentrionalis

Bush



Eastern rosella **I,B**

Platycercus eximius

Bush, plantings, pasture



Red-crowned parakeet (Kakariki) **E,B+?**

Cyanoramphus novaezelandiae

Bush, bush edge, scrub

CUCKOOS



Shining cuckoo (Pipiwaharuroa) **N,B**

Chrysococcyx lucidus

Bush, scrub, plantings, in spring-summer



Long-tailed cuckoo (Koekoea) **E,V**

Eudynamys taitensis

Bush, scrub, plantings, in spring-summer

OWLS



Morepork (Ruru) **N,B**

Ninox novaeseelandiae

Bush, scrub, plantings

KINGFISHERS



Kookaburra **I,B?**

Dacelo novaeguineae

Bush, scrub, plantings, pasture



Kingfisher (Kotare) **N,B**

Halcyon sancta

Coast, lagoon, wetlands, bush, scrub, plantings, pasture



Grey duck (Parera) **N,B**

Anas superciliosa

Wetlands, lagoon, pasture



Grey teal (Tete) **N,V**

Anas gracilis

Wetlands, lagoon, pasture



Brown teal (Pateke) **E,B+**

Anas chlorotis

Wetlands, lagoon, bush, pasture



New Zealand shoveler (Kuruwhengi) **N,B**

Anas rhynchos

Wetlands, lagoon

BIRDS of PREY



Harrier (Kahu) **N,B**

Circus approximans

Bush, scrub, wetlands, dunes, pasture

GAMEBIRDS



California quail **I,B**

Callipepla californica

Bush, scrub, wetlands, dunes, pasture



Brown quail **I,B**

Synoicus ypsilophorus

Bush, scrub, wetlands, dunes, pasture



Ring-necked pheasant **I,B**

Phasianus colchicus

Bush, scrub, wetlands, dunes, pasture



Feral turkey **I,B**

Meleagris gallopavo

Scrub, pasture

RAILS

Banded rail (Moho-pereru) **N,B**
Rallus philippensis
Wetlands, salt marshes, lagoon

Spotless crake (Puwheto) **N,B**
Porzana tabuensis
Wetlands, salt marshes

Pukeko **N,B**
Porphyrio melanotus
Bush, wetlands, salt marshes, pasture

WADERS, GULLS and TERNs

Pied oystercatcher (Torea) **E,V**
Haematopus finschi
Beaches, lagoon

Variable oystercatcher (Toreapango) **E,B**
Haematopus unicolor
Beaches, rocky coast, lagoon

Pied stilt (Poaka) **N,B**
Himantopus leucocephalus
Beaches, lagoon, wetlands, pasture

New Zealand dotterel (Tuturiwhatu) **E,B**
Charadrius obscurus
Beaches, rocky coast, lagoon

Pacific golden plover **V**
Pluvialis fulva
Beaches

Spur-winged plover **N,B**
Vanellus miles
Beaches, lagoon, wetlands, pasture

Bar-tailed godwit **V**
Limosa lapponica
Beaches, lagoon

Arctic skua **V,S**
Stercorarius parasiticus
Offshore in summer

Southern black-backed gull (Karoro) **N,B**
Larus dominicanus
Offshore year round, beaches, rocky coast, lagoon, pasture

Red-billed gull (Tarapunga) **N,B**
Larus novaehollandiae
Offshore year round, beaches, rocky coast, lagoon, pasture

Caspian tern (Taranui) **N,V**
Sterna caspia
Offshore year round, beaches, lagoon

White-fronted tern (Tara) **N,B**
Sterna striata
Offshore year round, beaches

PIGEONS and DOVES

New Zealand pigeon (Kereru) **E,B**
Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae
Bush, scrub, plantings

Spotted dove **I,V**
Streptopelia chinensis
Bush edges