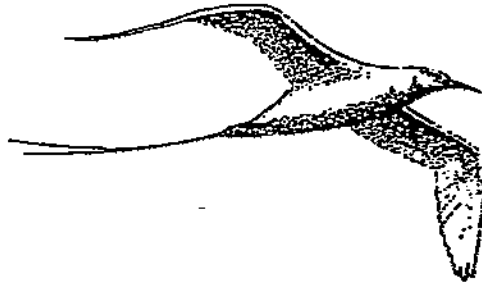


AMOKURA



*Newsletter
of the Northland Region
of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand*

September 2010

Amokura 99

MEETINGS

Meetings of the Northland Branch of the O.S.N.Z. are held each month on the second Thursday for the period FEBRUARY to MARCH.

TIME: 7-30p.m.

VENUE: Founders Room, Alzheimers Society, 321 Western Hills Drive, Whangarei.

COST: A donation of \$3-00 per meeting is requested toward the cost of hall hire, supper and the production and distribution of "Amokura".

ALL WELCOME

Photograph by JEAN HAWKEN:

"SPRING IS HERE"



REGIONAL ROUNDUP NORTHLAND

Rudi Hoetjes, Regional Manager, Northland Fish and Game Council, was the guest speaker for our July meeting. He presented a most informative programme as he discussed a variety of wetland habitats which he illustrated with a series of photographs and shared many interesting facts with us.

The focus of Fish and Game N.Z. is to manage, maintain and enhance habitats for gamebirds which include in Northland, Mallard, Grey, Shoveler and Paradise ducks, Black Swan, Canada Geese and Pukeko plus Brown and California quail. Most of the funding available to "Fish and Game" comes from the sale of licences to hunters of gamebirds and fishers for trout and salmon.

Fish and Game staff give advice freely to those developing and maintaining wetlands and Rudi explained that;

- Wetlands are managed for both flora and fauna
- Over 90% of wetlands in New Zealand have been lost through drainage and/or habitat modification
- Wetlands contain the greatest diversity of any ecosystem on the planet
- Following land clearance, there are increasing levels of sedimentation and poor water quality
- Northland has some of the most significant wetlands left in New Zealand
- Our wetlands are still being drained or modified
- Large natural wetlands are no longer being created due to the confinement of rivers and streams

He went on to discuss aspects of wetland management;

- Wetland management includes the manipulation of water tables and levels
- The installation of control structures
- The appropriate and careful use of chemicals for weed control
- The use of machinery to form or to maintain spillways etc
- Predator control is a vital aspect of their work
- Man-made habitat can be created for both fish and wildlife

Members thoroughly enjoyed Rudi's presentation and look forward to a visit to the man-made Jack Bisset Wetlands in the near future.

Ruth Crockett.

AUGUST MEETING REPORT

In August, we had scheduled a talk by Graham Smith, Secretary of the N.Z. Fairy Tern Charitable Trust, but he was not able to attend because of a family bereavement.

We had instead, a "domestic" night where we attended to several administrative matters before watching a video-tape featuring the Great Barrier Reef, Lord Howe Island, Shark Bay – Western Australia and the Daintree Forest. It was intriguing to see White Terns laying eggs on bare branches and successfully raising their young who appeared to have a great sense of balance.

RECENT SIGHTINGS

On the shelly Batley roost, seven Royal Spoonbills were counted in June and during the regular East Coast Beach Patrol in July, another four Royal Spoonbills were seen well up the Ruakaka River.

A further twenty were counted at the Waipu Spit in the lagoon area roosting with the Shag colony in the pohutukawa trees. Three pairs of Fairy Tern have been sighted at Waipu Spit in August, feeding fish to partners. Another single Fairy Tern was sighted.

Recently the Whau Valley dam, Waro lake at Hikurangi and Semenoff's two sand ponds at Uretiti each had a pair of Dabchicks. From the beach, the best entry to the sand ponds is just to the north of the D.O.C. day-park at Uretiti, and passes a concrete plinth "Te Tahu te Tohora" where local iwi bury in the sand hills, any whale remains.

Claire Burtt.

A few of our members have been checking Shag colonies around the North and entering fresh data into the Shag Colony Register which was started in 1976. Map Series numbers and E/W or N/S positions which were entered in the register makes it relatively easy to pinpoint the position of each colony.

As it is quite a few years since some of the colonies were last counted, we have experienced some minor problems as we looked for them - changes in the names of roads, new roading lay-outs and coastal land sold, with access no longer available, are typical.

Of the 24 colonies checked recently, we found that 8 colonies have disappeared from the original site recorded in the Register. Pied Shags are now our most prevalent species in the North and we have found that mixed species often nest together in the colonies.

Janet Snell.

NORTHLAND REGION – O.S.N.Z. September meeting

The guest speakers for our meeting on 9th September were Graeme Smith and his wife Querida from Mangawhai, who told us of their recent trip to Ecuador, Brazil, Peru and Chile, with emphasis on the Galapagos Islands. Their photographs of some seventy plus species of birds was well narrated, with Graeme explaining the difficulty of trying to get an accurate focus on some quite active birds in awkward lighting conditions. The photographs also gave us a good idea of the terrain which ranged from jagged mountains at high altitude, to volcanic rock at sea level with some dense jungle and river scenes as well.

The Galapagos Islands are generally remembered because of the observations of Charles Darwin and his party during the second voyage of the *Beagle*. Specimens collected by them on that voyage played an important part in the development of the theory of evolution by natural selection. Reputedly, the major study was on the Mocking- birds, but many of the labels affixed to their collected specimens became detached during the long sea voyage home. Labels were however, intact on the Finch specimens, so the development of that species on the individual islands became the focus of the study.

On this cluster of volcanic outcrops, species have evolved over the centuries and they remain largely untouched because the islands have no commercial value for mankind, although some species have travelled from the American mainland. Graeme and Querida, (whose name means in Spanish "*I love you*" and caused several embarrassed moments!) flew from Quito in Ecuador to the Islands. Day one of their tour started on Isla Lobos off San Cristobal Island where they studied Blue-footed Boobies, the Lava Heron and the Lobos Frigate Bird. Also seen were Brown Noddies and the San Cristobal Mocking Bird plus several of the Finch species including both Cactus and Warbler Finches. Of concern to the Island Conservators, are incidences of an avian disease among the ground finches, that causes lumps to form around their beak and facial areas.

Day two included Espanola Island where the Nazca Booby, the Waved Albatross and the Galapagos Pelican were seen, as were the Galapagos Hawk, the Galapagos Gull, the Elliot's Storm-petrel and Yellow warbler. Day three took them to Floreana Island where Striated Heron, Punta Cormorant, Pied Stilt, and the Galapagos Storm Petrel were added to the list. On Santa Cruz Island they saw the Santa Cruz Mocking Bird, the Brown Pelican, and a tortoise that was over 100 years old! Isabela Island was home to Flamingo, Purple Gallinule and Galapagos Penguins, while Fernandina Island hosted the Flightless Cormorant and Lava Gulls. On South Plaza, Shearwater and Swallow-tailed Gull, plus the Great Blue Heron added interest.

I hope that I have reasonably accurately recorded the above sightings, as I was trying to write in subdued light while the photographs were projected and discussed, without missing this rare chance of seeing some unusual birds.

Pauline Smith.

OUT OF REGION WANDERINGS

While catching up with Levin based relatives recently, we visited the Manawatu Estuary at Foxton Beach on 16th August 2010. This expansive area is the former bed of the Manawatu River where it discharged into the Tasman Sea prior to the excavation of the Whirikino Cut during the early 1940's. The township of Foxton was the main port for the fertile Horowhenua/ Manawatu/Rangitikei regions until better roads and railways killed off coastal shipping, leaving the flax (*Phormium Tenax*) industry as the only employer in Foxton.

Extensive silting of the "Foxton Loop" of the river since the diversion has produced an extensive sandy flood-plain that was littered with old logs and driftwood debris, including a tripod of cast-off jandals, that has returned to the former river-mouth. The channel is relatively narrow and rambling, but the area covered by the tidal waters is impressive.

From the carpark, a well maintained path leads to a hide tucked in beneath large pine trees and from there, out over the sand-flats at low tide. The information board was erected by D.O.C. and O.S.N.Z. to tell visitors that the estuary hosts about 3000 birds of some 38 species each year. Arctic waders start arriving during September and species seen there include Wrybills, South Island Pied Oystercatchers, Royal Spoonbills, Bar-tailed Godwit, Lesser Knot, Banded Dotterel, Pied Stilt and Mallard, Grey, and New Zealand Shoveller ducks.

Unfortunately, we were there when the tide was out, and so were the birds! It was early in the whitebait season and the local hopefuls were out in force waiting for the tide to turn. A walk out to the beach front showed a similar lack of bird-life on the ocean, but some spectacular breakers and a superb view of the snow covered Mount Taranaki "floating" on a band of sea mist. The sand-hills have been severely criss-crossed over the weekend by quad bikes and moto-cross riders which must disturb bird-life to some extent.

On the way home we detoured through the Foxton to Shannon road to see the flood-gates that regulate water flow in times of flooding. Since the Moutoa swamp was drained a large area of fertile land has been developed, but the Manawatu River continues to deliver huge volumes of water from the lower Hawkes Bay in times of high rainfall. Upstream of the floodgates is a huge "sacrifice" area to pond water until it can be released through the floodgates. This provides a great foraging space for waders and waterfowl and was being used while we were there by some 67 Spur Winged Plover, 18 Stilts and 40 or more Black Backed Gulls, 30+ Mallard ducks, 7 Black Swan, lots of Skylarks and 4 Swallows.

On Newth Road we saw across the valley, a mass of white birds in a compact flock, but did not have a telescope with us. Through binoculars, we estimated that they were about 4000 Black Billed Gulls.

Pauline Smith and Kevin Hayes

BIRD WATCHING NORTH OF AWANUI

When I recently spent three weeks in the Far North at Pukenui minding a house and a cat, I called at the Unahi Wharf on 2 June 2010 to see if there were any Spoonbills around. Yes, there were! I counted over 200 in the old macrocarpa tree which is a favourite roost for them, but as I drove off, I could see others roosting on branches that were out of my line of sight where I was parked and counted from. It was plain that there were many more than the 200 that I had counted .

In the same area there were 10 Little Black Shags roosting on the piles of the old fertiliser jetty. The next day (3 June) on a calm sunny afternoon at high tide, I counted 658 Pied Stilt standing on the very edge of the water behind the Houhora Tavern. That same after noon, in a paddock just north of the Tavern, I saw a Bittern walking slowly among the tall rank grass. It was a very pale colour and seemed to be a small and thin bird – possibly a young one?

Further north on the Henderson Bay road I counted 75 Skylark on the gravel road. On the beach at Henderson Bay there were 2 N.Z. Dotterel, 1 Little Black Shag, 1 White-faced Heron, 1 Pied Shag, 2 Variable Oyster-catchers, 2 Black-backed Gulls and a Pipit. On the way home I went down Kimberley Road and looked across to Lake Waihopo and counted 113 Canada Geese. The locals told me that there are many hundreds of these geese in the Far North now and the Council are considering a culling programme for next year.

On 4th June I went on another sunny afternoon to the southern end of Rarawa Beach where I counted 105 Variable Oyster-catchers and 18 N.Z. Dotterel; 8 of which were very highly coloured up in breeding plumage. They were fighting and squabbling over territory and partners and two pairs were copulating. On a dead branch up the creek there were 19 Pied Shag, 4 Little Shag and 1 Little Black Shag.

I returned to the Unahi Wharf area on 8th June, a cold and windy day, at high tide and counted over 100 Royal Spoonbill in the macrocarpa tree and another 300 or so in the paddock on the left as I drove away from the wharf. As the next day was again sunny and calm, I decided to go up to Rarawa Beach and walk north around Paxton Point, then on to Great Exhibition Bay to the first creek. There were 76 Variable Oyster-catchers, 6 South Island Pied Oyster-catchers, 7 N.Z. Dotterel, 24 Black-backed Gulls, 12 Red-billed Gulls, 6 Pied Stilts and a Pipit; all in the area where the creek flows into the sea.

June 13th was a cold day with strong westerly winds blowing as a neighbour, Annie Mae Crene and I, headed up to Spirits Bay. We saw 2 Variable Oyster-catchers on the open beach and 8 Pied Shags up the creek a little. In a small Pohutukawa tree overhanging the creek there was 1 Big Black Shag and three nests, with two of the nests occupied by Pied Shags.

There is a new ablution block (with cold water showers) in the camping ground. In the late afternoon we went to Te Hapua where the sun was shining on the Spoonbills that were feeding on the low-tide area in front of Te Hapua village, but they were just too far away to count.

While driving down Heath Road in the Waiharara area on 14th June we counted 25 Cattle Egret feeding among the cattle. The Egrets seem to favour this area, but this is the least number that I have counted here for a long time, though I have seen a few in the paddocks at Paua some years back. Two days later, on a calm and sunny day, I went up to Paua on the Parengarenga Harbour at high tide to look for birds in the paddocks down Te Pua Road which is usually a favourite roost. There were 469 South Island Pied Oyster-catchers and 65 Banded Dotterel with lots of Chaffinch and Skylarks picking around the edge of the group of bigger birds.

I then walked out to Akatarere Point and looked across to the Ahiarere shell-bank and counted 76 Black-backed Gulls, 185 Red-billed Gulls, 2 Caspian Tern, 520 Pied Stilts, 6 South Island Pied Oyster-catchers, 32 Variable Oyster-catchers, 8 Little Shags, 2 Little Black Shags, 1 White-faced Heron and 23 Black Swan. After lunch I went up to Tapotupotu Bay where I counted 2 Pipit, 6 Skylark, 2 N.Z. Dotterel, 6 Red-billed Gulls and 8 Brown Quail who, to my absolute amazement, were very tame.

When I was sitting in my car with the door open and my feet resting on the grass as I had my "cuppa" and sandwich, they scuttled around in the grass right beside my feet, pecking for crumbs. I then sprinkled more crumbs onto the grass and reached for my camera. I was able to photograph them right beside my feet before they moved to a dusty area about a metre away to preen and fluff about in the dust. My next move was to get out of the car and to crawl along until I was really close and able to click away. The little quail took no notice of me and stayed in their little covey of 8 as they talked and twittered away very quietly to each other all the time. I became engrossed in watching them for about an hour – getting back to Pukenui after dark!

I have always thought of them as having just an all-over drab brown colour...how wrong I was...their mottled chestnut colour above and the fine wavy bars below, giving them a special beauty. Were they hand-reared and released at Topotupotu, or did they hatch there and become accustomed to humans? Some tourist buses call there for picnic lunches and the Quail now connect people with food! An amazing experience for me and the highlight of my stay in the Far North this year.

Janet Snell.

NORTHLAND SIGHTINGS

On 25th May 2010 *Janet Snell* counted the following birds at the Waipu River mouth (through McAulay's farm). The 9 Species were standing on the sandspit:

Royal Spoonbills	19
New Zealand Dotterel	11
Pied Shag	8
Grey Duck	61
Red-billed Gull	10
Black-backed Gull	10
Caspian Tern	11
Variable Oystercatcher	10
White-fronted Tern	51

At Johnson Point Road, Waipu, on 3rd July 2010 Janet counted 16 Species enjoying a mid-day high tide; from the Waipu River mouth to the Shag colony on the lagoon:

Black Swan	26
Variable Oystercatcher	132
Pied Stilt	32
White-faced Heron	1
Caspian Tern	3
Godwit	10
Black-backed Gull	37
Little Black Shag	1
S. I. Pied Oystercatcher	7
Pied Shag	36
Little Shag	4
Reef Heron	1
New Zealand Dotterel	16
Banded Dotterel	9
Red Billed Gull	54

Then, on 18th July near the Shag colony at Waipu she saw 20 Royal Spoonbills and 2 Fairy Terns on the estuary and on the 27th July 2 Kaka were seen at Maungakaramaea. On 24th August 2010 Janet observed around 200 Gannets, both in the air and on the water; again at the Waipu River-mouth. Janet is one busy birder!

Also of interest was the sighting on about 9th September 2010 by *Den Carter*, of six KAKA flying and displaying above the Northland Golf Course and *Gwenda Pulham* saw three pairs of Fairy Tern at Waipu.

LAKE AND POND SURVEY

On the first fine day since the shooting season ended, we drove out on Friday 10th September 2010 in bright sunshine and clear skies, to check for bird-life on the Jack Bissett Wetlands. Our last visit was in late March when the drought was really having an effect on the water levels which were well down; so much so, that there was a beach shoreline on the big lake. Our arrival was timed for 4-00p.m. to see if we could locate any Bittern, but we were thwarted as there was very little bird-life on the water. The water levels were well up, as was the Wairoa River.

On the ponds we noted 30 Black Swan, a White-faced Heron, a Paradise Duck and another duck with 11 very active ducklings. The passerines were in full song and we sighted 6 Kingfisher, 2 Eastern Rosella, 1 Kereru, Blackbirds and Skylarks, 25 Yellowhammer, 8 Goldfinch. Heard were Thrush, Grey Warbler and Chaffinch. Because of the bright conditions and the lack of water-fowl, we did not stay until dusk, but left at 5-15p.m.

It should be more interesting later in the year, following the breeding season. There were a large mob of curious young cattle who followed us along the fence-line expecting to be fed, so we were not able to count the waterfowl in a leisurely manner. As we prepared to leave, we met Mr Peter Worsfold, who farms the surrounding land and who was preparing to mend a flood damage breach in the pond fence. Hopefully, better birding next visit!

Pauline Smith and Kevin Hayes

Photograph by JEAN HAWKEN



NATIONAL WADER CENSUS - NORTH KAIPARA

Compiled by Den Carter

Date: 27 Jun 2010

Tide Height: 4-00m

Time: 11-24a.m.

Weather: Sun with cloud-light S.W. wind.

*Banded Spoonbill MY/YR ?

	Borcks	Oneri	Ngamou	Bailey-Tamao	Tinopai	Pahi-Whakapirau	Ruarwai	Taingahae-Kellys Bay	Okaro Creek	TOTAL
Black shag			11		1	1				13
Pied shag			5	3	4	6				18
Little black shag										
Little shag										
White-faced heron		14	35	1	1	10	15			76
White heron						1				1
Reef heron										
Royal spoonbill			50	*7		54				111
SL pied oystercatcher		69		419	@1450	492	@1490	470		4390
Variable oystercatcher				9						9
Pied stilt	N	1	15	121		570	2902	110		3719
NZ dotterel	O			4				6		10
Banded dotterel	I	13		31		141		1	N	186
Wrybill									O	
Pacific golden plover	C								T	
Spur winged plover	O	53	20		3	7				90
Turnstone	U								C	
Lesser knot	N								O	
Far-eastern curlew	T								U	
Asiatic whimbrel	E								N	
Bar-tailed godwit	D			9		7		**150	T	166
Black-backed gull				4					E	4
Red-billed gull								35	D	35
Caspian tern			1	3	3		15	1		23
White-fronted tern		1	1	2	31	15		5		54
Fairy tern										
Little tern										
Cattle egret							11			11
Black swan										
Arctic Skua										
TOTAL	0	150	138	609	1497	1304	4440	778	0	8916

Participants: C. Burti, D. Calvert, D. Carter, P. Cozens, L. Forrest, J. Hawken, K. Hayes @ = Mixed SIPO/ VOC

S. McPherson, J. Hudson, K. Miller, J. Snell, M. Smith, P. Smith. ** = Banded Godwit-Orange R/L.eg(Viet. Aust)

NORTHLAND WEST COAST BEACH PATROL – Code NW - SUMMARY

Compiled by Prue Cozens – Period JULY to DECEMBER 2009

MONTH	- 07-09	15-08-09	-09-09	10-10-09	21-11-09	11-12-09	
FROM	Mahuta Gap	Mahuta Gap	Omamari	Glinks Gully	Glinks Gully	Mahuta Gap	
TO	3k Nth.Chase	31/4k Nth Ch	Mahuta Ga	3k Nth.Chase	3k Nth.Chase	3k Nth.Chase	
DISTANCE	10km.	10.5km.	20km.	21.5km.	21.5km.	10km.	TOTAL
PATROLLERS:	<i>K. Miller</i>	<i>C. Parkes</i>	<i>P. Cozens</i>	<i>D. Calvert</i>	<i>H. vanWieri</i>		
Wandering Albatross							
Royal Albatross							
Black-browed Mollymawk							
White-capped (shy mollymawk)							
Storm Petrel Sp.							
Buller's Mollymawk		1					1
Light-mantled Sooty Albatross							
Flesh-footed Shearwater					1		1
Buller's Shearwater				2	5	3	10
Sooty Shearwater					27	10	37
Short-tailed Shearwater							
Fluttering Shearwater		1		1	6	1	9
Hutton's Shearwater	NO PATROL		NO PATROL		1		1
Little Shearwater						1	1
Common Diving Petrel							
Black Petrel	THIS		THIS				
White-chinned Petrel						2	2
Kerguelen Petrel							
Cape Pigeon	MONTH		MONTH			1	1
Antarctic Fulmar					3	1	4
Northern Giant Petrel							
Fairy Prion		1			5		6
Thin-billed Prion							
Antarctic Prion							
Broad-billed Prion							
Fulmar-billed Prion							
Prion sp							
Blue Petrel							
Pycroft's Petrel							
Cook's Petrel					3		3
Black-winged Petrel							
Mottled Petrel					1	1	2
Grey-faced Petrel							
White-headed Petrel		1					1
White-faced Storm Petrel							
Blue Penguin							
Australasian Gannet				3			3
Pied Shag							
Paradise Shelduck							
Mallard duck							
Variable Oystercatcher							
Southern Black-backed Gull							
Red-billed Gull							
Turkey				1			1
Bunches of feathers.?Teredo				2	1		3
TOTAL	Xx	4	Xx	9	53	20	86

NORTHLAND WEST COAST BEACH PATROL – Code NW - SUMMARY

Compiled by Prue Cozens – Period JANUARY to JUNE 2010

MONTH	16-01-10	27-02-10	27-03-10	26-04-10	25-05-10	19-06-10	
FROM	Mahuta Gap	3kNth.Chase	Mahuta Gap	Mahuta Gap	Mahuta Gap	Mahuta Gap	
TO	3k Nth.Chas	Mahuta Gap	3k Nth.Chas	3k Nth.Chas	3k Nth.Chas	3k Nth.Chas	
DISTANCE	10.5km.	10.5km.	17km.	10.5km.	21.5km.	10.5km.	TOTAL
PATROLLERS:	<i>D. Calvert</i>	<i>K. Miller</i>	<i>C. Parkes</i>	<i>P. Cozens</i>	<i>S. Jenkins</i>	<i>H. Wieringe</i>	
Wandering Albatross							
Royal Albatross							
Grey-headed Mollymawk						1	1
White-capped (shy mollymawk)	1						1
Storm Petrel Sp.							
Buller's Mollymawk	4						4
Light-mantled Sooty Albatross							
Flesh-footed Shearwater							
Buller's Shearwater			1				1
Sooty Shearwater			1		2		3
Short-tailed Shearwater		2					2
Fluttering Shearwater					1	1	2
Hutton's Shearwater			1				1
Little Shearwater						1	1
Shearwater Sp.		1					1
Common Diving Petrel						1	1
White-chinned Petrel							
Kerguelen Petrel							
Cape Pigeon							
Antarctic Fulmar							
Northern Giant Petrel				NO BIRDS			
Fairy Prion			2			5	7
Thin-billed Prion				FOUND			
Antarctic Prion							
Broad-billed Prion							
Fulmar-billed Prion							
Australasian Harrier					1		1
Blue Petrel							
Pycroft's Petrel							
Cook's Petrel	2						2
Black-winged Petrel							
Mottled Petrel							
Grey-faced Petrel			2				2
White-headed Petrel			2			1	3
White-faced Storm Petrel	1						1
Blue Penguin	2	2	3		4		11
Australasian Gannet	1	1	3				5
Pied Shag							
Paradise Shelduck							
Southern Skua						1	1
Variable Oystercatcher							
Southern Black-backed Gull							
Red-billed Gull					1		1
Paradise Shelduck					1		1
Waxeye					1		1
TOTAL	11	6	15	Nil	11	11	54

EAST COAST BEACH PATROL – BREAM BAY SUMMARY

Compiled by P. R. SMITH – Period JANUARY to JUNE 2010

MONTH	JANUARY	FEBRUAR	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTALS
FROM	Mair Road	Kauri Mt.	Kauri Mt.	Ruakaka R	Surf Cl.	Mair Rd.	
TO	Waipu Tfr	Waipu R.	Waipu R.	Uretiti Tip	Waipu R.	Waipu R.	
DISTANCE	13km	11.5km	km	6km	12.5km	13km	
PATROLLERS: J. Snell,	C. L. Burt	K. Miller	P. Cozens	J. Hawken	D. Calvert	C. Parkes	M. Smith
Wandering Albatross							
Royal Albatross							
Black-browed Mollymawk							
White-capped (shy mollymaw							
Grey-headed Mollymawk							
Buller's Mollymawk							
Light-mantled Sooty Albatro							
Flesh-footed Shearwater		1				2	3
Buller's Shearwater		1					1
Sooty Shearwater							
Short-tailed Shearwater							
Fluttering Shearwater		4			4	5	13
Hutton's Shearwater			NO	NO			
Little Shearwater		1	PATROL	BIRDS			1
Common Diving Petrel	1		THIS	FOUND	2	22	25
Black Petrel		1	MONTH				1
White-chinned Petrel							
Kerguelen Petrel							
Cape Pigeon							
Antarctic Fulmar							
Northern Giant Petrel							
Fairy Prion						2	2
Thin-billed Prion							
Antarctic Prion							
Broad-billed Prion							
Lesser Broad-billed Prion							
Prion sp							
Blue Petrel							
Pycroft's Petrel							
Cook's Petrel						1	1
Black-winged Petrel							
Mottled Petrel							
Grey-faced Petrel		2				3	5
White-headed Petrel							
White-faced Storm Petrel							
Blue Penguin	1	4			2		7
Australasian Gannet						3	3
Pied Shag					1	1	2
Paradise Shelduck						3	3
Mallard duck							
Variable Oystercatcher							
Southern Black-backed Gull	2						2
Red-billed Gull						1	1
Black Swan		1					1
Black Shag					1		1
Tui		1					1
Southern Skua					1		1
TOTALS	4	16			10	44	74



Photograph by JEAN HAWKEN

"KERERU"

Photograph by PAULINE SMITH

"SPOONBILLS AT UNAHI WHARF"



PROGRAMME TO DECEMBER

- OCTOBER:** 14 MEETING – Programme: Kiwi film
16 WEST COAST BEACH PATROL
19 EAST COAST BEACH PATROL
BANDED RAIL SURVEY (1/4 hr. before dark for one hour)
CASPIAN TERN SURVEY – Oct/Nov.
- NOVEMBER:** 11 MEETING
13 WEST COAST BEACH PATROL
16 EAST COAST BEACH PATROL
27 WHANGAREI HARBOUR CENSUS (12.20p.m.)
- DECEMBER:** 4 KAIPARA HARBOUR CENSUS 10-00a.m. high tide – 4 metre
9 END OF YEAR FUNCTION
17 WEST COAST BEACH PATROL
21 EAST COAST BEACH PATROL

OFFICERS:

Regional Representative:	David Crockett	435-0954
Treasurer:	Den Carter	435-1650
Secretary:	Ruth Crockett	435-0954
Amokura Editor:	Audrey Williams	459-1931
Amokura printer:	Kevin Hayes	437-6470
Regional Reporter:	Claire Burt	435-1166
Regional Recorder:	Tony Beauchamp	436-2224

CONVENORS:

West Coast Beach Patrols:	Prue Cozens	437-7760
East Coast Beach Patrols:	Claire Burt	435-1166
Whangarei Harbour Census:	Tony Beauchamp	436-2224
Kaipara Harbour Census:	David Crockett	435-0954
Limestone/Matakohe Island:	Gerry Brackenbury	437-7532
Bird Recovery Centre:	Prue Cozens	437-7760
Supper:	Pauline Smith & Marie Smith	437-6470 437-0214