

Walkthrough: 09.10.2020

## Diary Of A Bird Watching Addict And Other Notes From Whareroa Farm, Whareroa Guardians Community Trust

*Walk Through* – Occasional Report																					
Date	9 Oct 2020	12 Sept 2020	10 Aug 2020	20 Jul 2020	May 28 2020	Apr 30 2020	Feb 28 2020	Jan 17 2020	Dec 6 2019	Nov 15 2019	Sep 20 2019	Aug 15 2019	Jul 22 2019	Jun 10 2019	May 8 2019	Mar 18 2019	Feb 21 2019	Nov 21 2018	Oct 10 2018	Sep 8 2018	Aug 9 2018
Begin Time	1.47	1.20	10.04	10.15	11.20	9.40	9.30	9.30	9.30	9.08	10.03	10.05	9.30	10.00	9.45	10.38	9.35	9.30	9.40	9.45	14.00
End Time	3.40	3.30	12.08	11.45	1.05	11.30	11.40	11.05	10.50	10.30	11.58	11.45	11.15	11.58	12.50	12.50	11.15	11.00	11.30	12.30	15.50
Bellbird	2	2	3	4	1		1	3	2		4	1	3	1	3	3		1		2	1
Blackbacked Gull							5									2	3				
Blackbird	6	11	8	6	9	4	7	12	10	14	19	12	7	6	2	2	7	7	8	2	10
California quail	4	4	4				4	7	4	8			2			1					
Chaffinch	5	6	8	4	7	2	5	9	12	14	8	10	18	3	2		1	8	18	10	10
Duncock													1					1			1
Eastern rosella						3	1	4	2	2	1	1	2	2	3	4			2	4	
Falcon						1										2					
Fantail	5	6	3	7	16	4	5	8	5	7	12	3	7	10	6	7	6	6	2	4	12
Goldfinch		40		11	2			5	7	6						8	2	7	14		4
Greenfinch		6						2	2	3		1						1	6		
Greywarbler	4	5	5	3	1		8	3	3	5	13	4	3	1	3	4	2	2	1	2	1
HARRIER	1	1	1								4	3		2			1	1	2	2	
Kereru	1	1	2	3	2		1	1		1						1	1		2	2	
Kingfisher	1	1		1	1		1	2	2				1	2	2		2		1		
Magpie	2	1	4	1		7	3	1		1	2	1	1	4	3	4	3	1	2		2
Mallard		3										1						1			
Paradise shelduck	6	6	4	6		4	1			4	4	5		4	4	2		1	4	6	5
Pheasant	3	3	2	1	2			1	5	3	4	2		1	3		1	5			
Pukeko	2	4	4	16		6	8	2	2		3	4	6	3	13	3		2	5	3	3
Redpoll		3																			1
Rock Pigeon																					
Shining Cuckoo																					
Silvereye	4	2	6	5	40	10	27	10	2	17	12	1	15	3	2	11	10	3		7	
Sparrow		5		1			16	4	2	4	4		2	5	1	29	12	6		12	
Spurwinged Plover		4				2		4	4				2			1					
Starling				7				22	5	1			6	2	2	20	3	5		2	
Swallow		3	1			1	12			3		1		1				4	1	4	3
Thrush	1	1		7	4				5	4	5	5	5		3			2	2	5	5
Tui	7	11	5	6	9	10	10	2	4	7	8	5	15	9	10	8	4	6	2	5	2
White faced Heron			1			2															
Yellowhammer		4					2	1	1				3		1			1			3
Total Birds	54	130	61	89	94	57	116	99	79	104	103	61	100	57	65	110	59	70	69	69	62
Species Count	16	23	16	17	12	14	17	19	19	18	15	18	18	16	18	17	16	20	14	17	14

A bit of data crunching from the above table (21 walkthrough visits up to and including 9.10.20)...

- Between 14 and 20 species have been sighted during most walk-throughs. September 12, 2020 was a big day with 23 species (on May 28, 2020 only 12 were sighted, compared with 18 in May 2019 - nature is fickle sometimes...)
- 3 species have been seen at each walk-through: Blackbird, Tui & Fantail (Chaffinches and Grey Warblers have been off shopping during separate visits, otherwise they would be in this exclusive group too)
- 11 species were sighted during at least 67% (14 or more) of visits: Bellbird, Blackbird, Chaffinch, Fantail, Grey Warbler, Magpie, Paradise Shelduck, Pukeko, Silvereye, Sparrow & Tui (Eastern Rosellas were sighted during 13 visits)
- Most sighted: Silvereyes (187), Blackbird (169), Chaffinch (160), Tui (145), Fantail (141), Goldfinch (106), Sparrow (103).
- Not yet sighted by Helen during these walk-throughs (but have been sighted in past years in Whareroa): Shining Cuckoo, Rock Pigeon.

**October 9, 2020**

*Helen Reports:* Here is another 'walkthrough' just done on the spur of the moment on a lovely day, calm and warm.

The farm is looking great, the picnic area specially - worth a photo (see below)!

Not as many birds seen as usual, but plenty of tuis, fantails and chaffinches, and many Riroriro heard. I was hoping to hear the shining cuckoo, but no 😞

We headed on up to the 'lookout' for a grand view. The flax flowers are beginning to look magnificent here (photo below).

Some entertainment too - an aerial dogfight between magpie and harrier. Then on through the 'kohekohe forest' where we noticed how the under-story growth has increased - and the scent of the hange hange is now quite prevalent.

We headed on up through the gums to the Carex valley - all rather quiet, but we were rewarded by a kereru 'fly past'.

Once back at the picnic area near the entrance we noted a lemonwood (*Pittosporum*) with a lovely display of flowers, hence the pic below.

Breaking news - exciting moment here - have just seen a male bellbird in our bottlebrush!! Yay!

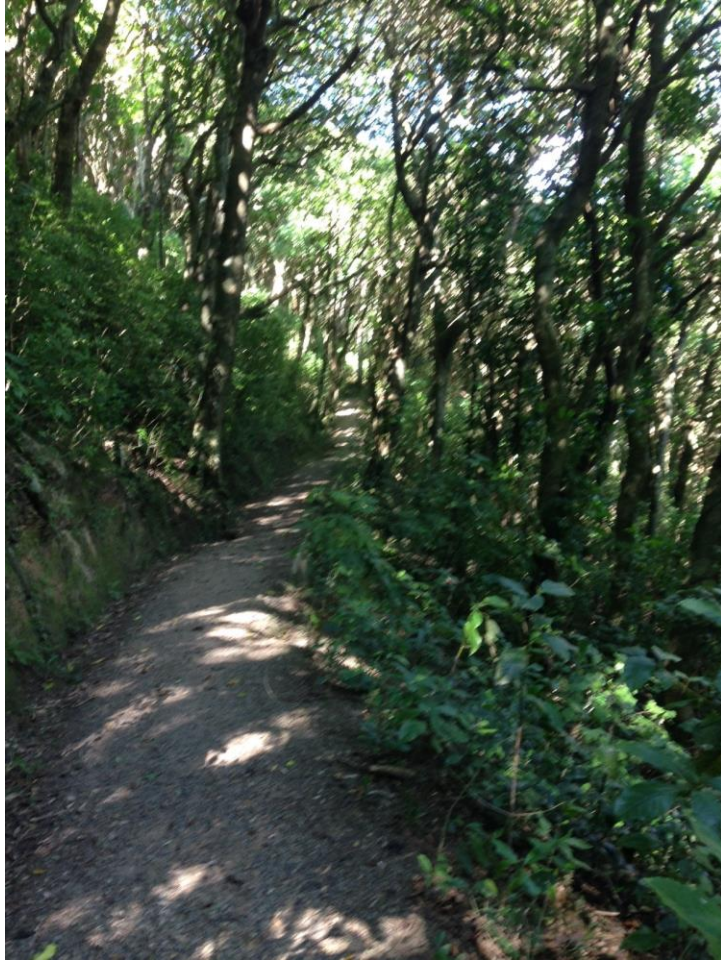


View over the picnic area near the entrance



Flax flowers





Kohekohe Bush walk



Flax flowers



Lemonwood