

Walkthrough: 20.11.2020

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

BIRDS RECORDED at Whareroa Farm, 'Walk Through' – Occasional Report		20 Nov 2020	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	End Time	9.56	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
		12.40	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	4	2	2	3	4	1			1	3	2		4	1	3	1	3	3		1		2	1
Blackbacked Gull									5										2	3			
Blackbird	10	6	11	8	6	9	4	7	12	10	14	19	12	7	6	2	2	7	7	7	8	2	10
California quail	6	4	4	4				4	7	4	8			2				1	1				
Chaffinch	17	5	6	8	4	7	2	5	9	12	14	8	10	18	3	2			1	8	18	10	10
Dunnock														1						1			1
Eastern rosella	2						3	1	4	2	2	1	1	2	2	3	4				2	4	
Falcon							1										2						
Fantail	2	5	6	3	7	16	4	5	8	5	7	12	3	7	10	6	7	6	6	2	4	12	4
Goldfinch			40		11	2			5	7	6							8	2	7	14		
Greenfinch			6						2	2	3			1							1	6	
Greywarbler	9	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	2		2	
Kereru	2	1	1	2	3	2			1	1		1						1	1		2	2	
Kingfisher	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2				1	2		2		2			1	
Magpie	6	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	6	4	6		4	1				4	4	5		4	4	2		1	4	6	5
Pheasant	8	3		2	1	2			1	5	3	4	2			1	3		1	5			
Pukeko	1	2	4	4	16		6	8	2	2			3	4	6	3	13	3		2	5	3	3
Redpoll	3		3																				1
Rock Pigeon																							
Shining Cuckoo	2																						
Silvereye	5	4	2	6	5	40	10	27	10	2	17	12	1	15	3	2	11	10	3			7	
Sparrow	2		5		1			16	4	2	4	4		2	5	1	29	12	6			12	
Spurwinged Plover			4				2		4					2				1					
Starling	5			7					22	5	1			6	2	2	20	3	5		2		2
Swallow			3	1			1	12			3			1		1			4	1	4	3	
Thrush	6	1	1	7	4				5	4	5	5	5	5	1	3			2	2	2	5	
Tui	9	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													1			3
Yellowhammer	6		4					2	1	1					3		1						3
Total Birds	113	54	130	61	89	94	57	116	99	79	104	103	61	100	57	65	110	59	70	69	69	62	
Species Count	21	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 (22 walkthrough visits up to and including 20.11.20)...

- 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% (15 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 (192), Blackbird (179), Chaffinch (177), Tui (154), Fantail (143), Goldfinch (106), Sparrow (105).
- Not yet sighted by Helen during these walk-throughs (but have been sighted in past years in Whareroa): Rock Pigeon. The Shining Cuckoo was sighted for the first time on one of Helen's walk-throughs on Nov 20 (at Five Ways, the link track)

November 20, 2020

Helen Reports: a beautiful calm day after so much wind. Proof of that was a large ngaio fallen in the picnic area!

The plan today was Dell - East Ridge - Horse track.

Twenty-one species seen and a count of 113, so there was plenty to see and hear.

The greatest reward for my efforts (climbing ER!) was actually *seeing* a shining cuckoo on the link track at Five Ways! It was right beside the track only a metre away, an unusual single call attracted me to stop and look. I was pleased to be able to record one down near the Dell - so this was an added bonus.

Most of what I either heard or saw was in the area from the entrance to the Dell but the challenge was to do the circuit for the first time in ages.

The redpolls were seen half way up ER - another species not so often seen (they are so tiny).

Every now and then there was a great commotion with numbers of pheasants noisily taking to the air from the long grass.

The most constant bird song this month was, all the way, from the chaffinches - splendid in breeding plumage.

Great to see two kereru flying over - near Carex Valley toward the Matai bush, and seeing the resident bellbird once again in the Dell by the Kamahi.

The cabbage trees have been looking fantastic this year, now past their best. Mahoe also in flower.

A very enjoyable and rewarding day!!



Fallen Ngaio in the picnic area



Cabbage trees in the Rautahi Wetland, near the Kohekohe Bush



Mahoe in flower.

Can you see the Shining Cuckoo or the tiny Redpolls in the foliage in the photo?

No, of course you can't.

They aren't in this photo.

You have to go and visit Whareroa to see and or hear these great birds.