

Bird Count Walkthrough

October 20, 2021

Helen Reports...

Today seemed like a good day for counting birds in Whareroa. Rather a cold SE wind greeted us surprisingly, but there was plenty of activity.

The chaffinch took the prize for most bird seen (16), and the most remarkable sighting was of two shining cuckoos near the Hub! They flew off later toward the Ti Kouka track. Another shining cuckoo was heard in the Ramaroa area.

We also saw two pairs of paradise shelduck - one pair up near the pine trees in the first paddock beside the farm race and the other pair, possibly on a nest, in the wetland area beyond the Hub. I mention this because last month they were missing!

I *think* I saw two black swans in flight up near the Cairn - maybe from the dam. Afterwards it occurred to me that they *may* have been Canada Geese but I couldn't do a replay so am unsure (I haven't seen Canada Geese in Whareroa before).

It was very good to see 3 kereru today and hear bellbirds in the kohekohe forest.

As we left, at the car park, we were very pleased to see that the swallows have defied all odds and have a nest in the information shelter! Yay!!

I have sent a pic of the lemonwood (Tarata) in flower...



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..... and also of the very busy hive activity enhancing the view beside the Matai bush.

Many thanks to those who keep the tracks mowed - they do a wonderful job. We keep marvelling at the fabulous growth of all the plantings - today especially up the Ti Kouka loop. So sheltered now!

Ed: Ann has sent this photo and noted "Hello Helen, See attached pic. I didn't get too close, but I think these were canada geese with babies. There were a couple of paradise ducks around as well. This pond is on the western side of the hills above Emerald Glen Rd - quite high up."



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A bit of data crunching from the attached table (30 walkthrough visits up to and including 20.10.21)

Usually 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 recorded

- On Sep 20, 2021: 18 species & 107 birds recorded (seen or heard).
- 3 species have been seen during every walk-through: Blackbird, Tui & Fantail (Chaffinches and Grey Warblers have not been seen once during separate visits, otherwise they would be in this exclusive group too, Silvereyes have not been seen twice)
- 14 species were sighted during at least 63% (19 or more) of visits: Bellbird, Blackbird, Chaffinch, Eastern Rosella, Fantail, Grey Warbler, Kereru, Magpie, Paradise Shelduck, Pukeko, Silvereye, Sparrow, Thrush & Tui
- Most sighted / Top 8 in alphabetical order: Blackbird (236), Chaffinch (221), Fantail (187), Goldfinch (123), Pukeko (130), Silvereyes (230), Sparrow (131), Tui (225)
- Least sighted in this series of reports (in alphabetical order, how often sighted, total number): Dunnock (3, 3), Falcon (2, 3), Mallard (3, 5), Redpoll (3, 7), Rock Pigeon (0, 0), Shining Cuckoo (3, 6), White Faced Heron (2, 3)

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BIRDS RECORDED at Whareroa Farm, 'Walk Through' – Occasional Report

Date	Begin Time	End Time	Bellbird	Blackbacked Gull	Blackbird	California quail	Chaffinch	Duncock	Eastern rosella	Falcon	Fantail	Goldfinch	Greenfinch	Greywarbler	Harrier	Kereru	Kingfisher	Magpie	Mallard	Paradise shelduck	Pheasant	Pukeko	Redpoll	Rock Pigeon	Shining Cuckoo	Silvereye	Sparrow	Spurwinged Plover	Starling	Swallow	Thrush	Tui	White faced Heron	Yellowhammer	Total Birds	Species Count
09. Aug 18	14.00	15.50	1		10		10				12	4		1				2		5		3	1						3	5	2		3	62	14	
08. Sep 18	9.45	12.30	2		2		10	1	4		4			2		2	1			6		3				7	12		2	4	2	5			69	17
10. Okt 18	9.40	11.30			8		18		2		2	14	6	1	2	2		2		4		5								1		2			69	14
21. Nov 18	9.30	11.00	1		7		8	1			6	7	1	2				1	1	1	5	2				3	6		5	4	2	6		1	70	20
21. Feb 19	9.35	11.15		3	7	1	1				6	2		2	1	1	2	3			1					10	12		3			4			59	16
18. Mär 19	10.38	12.50	3	2	2	1			4		7	8		4		1		4		2		3				11	29	1	20			8			110	17
08. Mai 19	9.45	12.50	3		2		2		3	2	6			3			2	3		4	3	13				2	1		2		3	10		1	65	18
10. Jun 19	10.00	11.58	1		6		3		2		10			1	2			4		4	1	3				3	5		2	1		9			57	16
22. Jul 19	9.30	11.15	3		7	2	18	1	2		7			3			2	1				6				15	2	2	6		5	15		3	100	18
15. Aug 19	10.05	11.45	1		12		10		1		3		1	4	3		1	1	1	5	2	4				1				1	5	5			61	18
20. Sep 19	10.03	11.58	4		19		8		1		12			13	4			2		4	4	3				12	4				5	8			103	15
15. Nov 19	9.08	10.30			14	8	14		2		7	6	3	5		1		1		4	3					17	4		1	3	4	7			104	18
06. Dez 19	9.30	10.50	2		10	4	12		2		5	7	2	3							5	2				2	2	4	5		5	4		1	79	19
17. Jan 20	9.30	11.05	3		12	7	9		4		8	5	2	3		1	2	1				2				10	4		22			2		1	99	19
28. Feb 20	9.30	11.40	1	5	7	4	5		1		5			8		1		3		1		8				27	16			12		10		2	116	17
30. Apr 20	9.40	11.30			4		2		3	1	4							7		4		6				10		2		1		10	2		57	14
28. Mai 20	11.20	1.05	1		9		7				16	2		1		2	1				2					40					4	9			94	12
20. Jul 20	10.15	11.45	4		6		4				7	11		3		3	1	1		6	1	16				5	1		7		7	6			89	17
10. Aug 20	10.04	12.08	3		8	4	8				3			5	1	2		4		4	2	4				6				1		5	1		61	16
12. Sep 20	1.20	3.30	2		11	4	6				6	40	6	5	1	1	1	1	3	6		4	3			2	5	4		3	1	11		4	130	23
09. Okt 20	1.47	3.40	2		6	4	5				5			4	1	1	1	2		6	3	2				4					1	7			54	16
20. Nov 20	9.56	12.40	4		10	6	17		2		2			9		2	2	6		6	8	1	3		2	5	2		5		6	9		6	113	21
05. Jan 21	9.55	11.50	5	13	14	8	10				3		2	2		4		2			1	4				5			12	5	1	17			108	17
17. Feb 21	9.48	11.29		1	10	7	2		2		4	7		3	1	1		4				9			1	3	6	2	6	1	3			73	19	
06. Apr 21	9.40	11.45	1		5		1				3	5		5			1	5		2		3				13	6		2			13			65	14
06. Mai 21	1.20	3.15	2		5		3		1		7	1		4		3	1			2		9				5	3				1	7			54	15
11. Jun 21	10.22	12.14	2		4		2		1		13			5	1			3		2		4				3	1		3	3	6	11			64	16
09. Jul 21	10.25	12.37	4		8		6				6			3		2				6		7				5			5		1	7		1	61	13
20. Sep 21	1.40	3.27	5		3		4		3		4	4		5		2	2			1	4	1				4	4		3	3		4		1	57	18
20. Okt 21	9.20	11.50	3		8	6	16		2		4			6		3	2	2		4	4	3			3		6		24	2		9			107	18

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