

# Bird Count Walkthrough

## June 21, 2022

Helen reports...

There was a glimmer of fine weather today, so I took the chance for this month's 'walkthrough.'

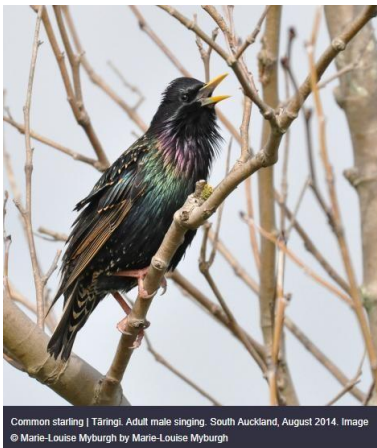
It was a pretty chilly start and a few rainbows to boot, but as always, worth a wander through the farm on the shortest day of the year.

First to get my attention was the song thrush,



a pukeko sitting high up in a ngaio (!)

and then paradise shelducks creating a fuss, over and above, beyond the yards. I couldn't see what was disturbing them.



A flock of starlings ....

and another, of goldfinches, flew over as I entered the kohekohe forest.



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Tui | Tui. Adult. Dunedin, August 2009. Image © Craig McKenzie by Craig McKenzie

Here, the flowering was over, I expect the storm had shortened the show, but there were tuis giving their alarm calls and several bellbirds, their distinctive solitary note, heard.



Bellbird | Korimako. Adult male. Dunedin, July 2009. Image © Craig McKenzie by Craig McKenzie



I also noticed some interesting fungi.



I enjoyed a walk through the Matai bush - tuis, bellbirds and fantails to be seen and heard.



The undergrowth looked good, hence the pic of the nikau with its new frond - and many kohekohe and titoki seedlings.



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It is always a buzz to actually see a bellbird - and I did, on my way down the Ti Kouka track opposite the hives.

I also walked up to the Kahikitea on the Ramaroa track and saw that a big poplar had fallen. No sign of wekas.

Best thing for me today was hearing so many bellbirds, and always being accompanied by fantails.

Until next time,  
Helen



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## The Search for the Whareroa Weka

In recent months, there have been some reports of potential possible weka sightings in Whareroa Farm, but no definitive confirmatory proof.

If you see one, do let us know ([whareroa.guardians@gmail.com](mailto:whareroa.guardians@gmail.com)) with as many details as possible (time, place, behaviour) and most ideally with photos and videos.



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### Data Table – some analysis

A bit of data crunching from the attached table (36 walkthrough visits up to and including 21.6.22)

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 & May 23, 2022, only 12 were recorded.

Helen records on average, a total number of 80 birds per walkthrough (the average has ranged from 54 to 130).

- On June 21, 2022: 15 species & 123 birds recorded (seen or heard).
- 3 species have been seen during every walk-through: Blackbird, Tui & Fantail (Grey Warblers have not been seen once during separate visits, otherwise they would be in this exclusive group too)
- 14 species were sighted during at least 63% (22 or more) of visits: Bellbird, Blackbird, Chaffinch, Eastern Rosella, Fantail, Grey Warbler, Magpie, Paradise Shelduck, Pukeko, Silvereye, Sparrow, Starling, Thrush & Tui (falling out of the list this time are: kereru with 21 sightings, back in are Starling with 22)
- Most sighted / Top 8 in alphabetical order: Blackbird (280), Chaffinch (248), Fantail (240), Goldfinch (172), Pukeko (173), Silvereyes (283), Starling (188), Tui (287)
- 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 (4, 7), 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	Black Swan	California quail	Canada Goose	Chaffinch	Dunnoek	Eastern rosella	Falcon	Fartail	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			2				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			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						1	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
17. Jan 22	9.00	11.20	2	16	6				6		1		8	5		3		6	1	4				7					1			9	2	1	18		2	98	18
21. Jun 22	9.53	12.00	5		10				2		2		9	16		1				5		7		7					3			43	1	2	10			123	15

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