

# Bird Count Walkthrough

## July 14, 2022

Helen reports...

Today was a spur of the moment short walk to check on the Titoki tree that we planted for Tony a couple of weeks ago. Of course, I had to do some bird obs at the same time.

We've had some terrible stormy weather lately with strong SE gales and I wanted to make sure our little tree was still upright. It was, I am glad to say, and was looking very happy on the edge of the Ti Kouka grasslands.

So, my numbers of birds were down: 12 species and 37 counted.

It was very calm and quiet with a sprinkling of rain in the hills.



Noticeable absence of tui today - heard only one in the kohekohe forest on my way out.

The song thrush was prevalent, the blackbirds also, and of course, our favourite piwakawakas - so loyal as usual.

Everything so lush and green ....and wet! The streams full to the brim.

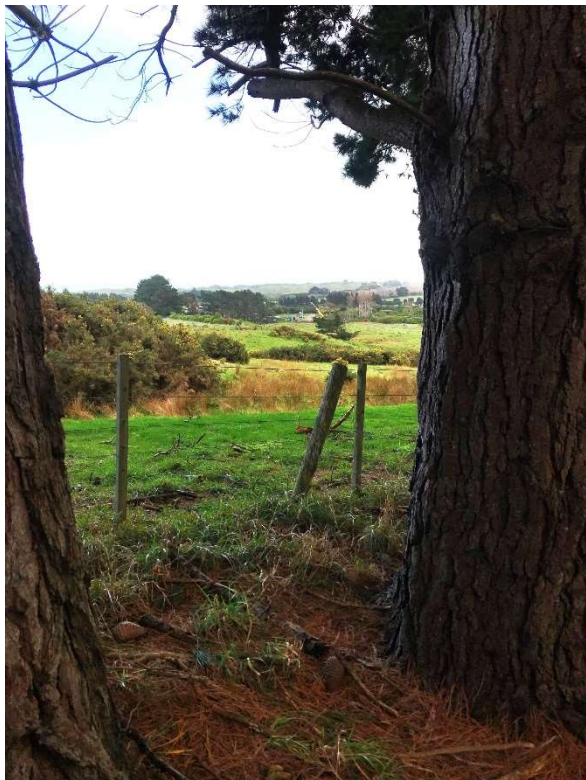
I entered the farm via what I call the Toetoe Flats - a well-trodden path, now a good access route. There has been some gorse busting and track building here which was good to see.

Nice steps - thank you to those hard-working volunteers.

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The culvert building gang was hard at it. The concrete culvert sections look enormous! There were several cars in the car park - visitors undeterred by the earthworks.



A peek at Kapiti from the Ti Kouka track

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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 (37 walkthrough visits up to and including 14.7.22)

Usually between 12 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 & July 14, 2022 only 12 were recorded.

Helen records on average, a total number of 80 birds per walkthrough (the average has ranged from 37 to 130).

- On July 14, 2022: 12 species & 37 birds recorded (seen or heard).
- 3 species have been recorded 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/heard during at least 61% (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 recorded / Top 8 in alphabetical order: Blackbird (289), Chaffinch (248), Fantail (245), Goldfinch (172), Pukeko (178), Silvereyes (285), Starling (188), Tui (288)
- Least sighted in this series of reports (in alphabetical order, how often sighted, total number): Dunnock (3, 3), Falcon (2, 3), Mallard (4, 7), 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	Dunnock	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			4		5								1		2				69	14	
21. Nov 18	9.30	11.00	1		7				8	1			6	7	1	2			1	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	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		4	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	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	4	2	4					6			1		5	1	1		61	16	
12. Sep 20	1.20	3.30	2		11		4		6				6	40	6	5	1	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	
14 July	9.30	10.45		1	9						2		5		1				2		2	2		5				2				5	1				37	12	

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