

# Bird Count Walkthrough

## August 23, 2022

Helen reports...

This count was done on the spur of the moment (after I came home from a week away). Spurred on by the sun, at last! and having family here who wanted to visit Tony's Titoki tree, it was a chance to do a 'walkthrough' bird count.

Sorry I have no photos this time (but the Editor has inserted photos from August 2020 Jan Nisbet. Thanks Jan! :-)

The farm is looking particularly lush and green this year - very damp underfoot.



The streams were up which meant you needed waders to cross to get to the Dell or to go back through the Kohekohe forest!

So those delights were off schedule, which was disappointing for my visitors. However the Ti Kouka track to the tree and the beautiful grasslands with views out to Kapiti Is. was very worthwhile. Peaceful and gorgeous.

Chaffinches were in full cry - with the male call noted, and the tuis were enjoying the kowhais which were flowering.

Several grey warblers were seen and heard.

I read from Birding NZ that a shining cuckoo had been heard up north at the Manakau Heads which is very early this year. The usual time is in the middle of September. So we will have to keep listening.

A good day even if a bit short on numbers.

Cheers, Helen

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## The Search for the Whareroa Weka

Some months ago, there had 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.

Background info from the wonderful [nzbirdsonline.org.nz](http://nzbirdsonline.org.nz) here [Weka | New Zealand Birds Online \(nzbirdsonline.org.nz\)](http://nzbirdsonline.org.nz)



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### Data Table – some analysis

A bit of data crunching from the attached table (38 walkthrough visits up to and including 23.8.22)

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 range is 37 to 130).

- On August 23, 2022: 14 species & 62 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 59% (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 (295), Chaffinch (253), Fantail (248), Goldfinch (172), Pukeko (183), Silvereyes (287), Starling (188), Tui (293)
- 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	Spur-winged 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	4	2	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					3	6				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	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	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	
23. Aug 22	2.00	3.30			6				5		3		3			3	1		1	2		2		5				2					5		6		46	14	

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