

Bird Count Walkthrough

December 20, 2022

Helen reports...

Christmas Greetings!

It was a very hot day today, which ended up with a thunderstorm - luckily, after I had arrived home.

There was lots of activity and lovely blackbird song. I started off doing the Ramaroa track.

Here is a pic of the flash new gate to the entrance of the track.

I didn't hear any grey warblers today but a saw two of them close at hand which was nice.



I carried on through the Ramaroa Wetland which is looking fantastic - the grass might be high but the tree planting there has gone 'whoosh', the ribbonwoods looking especially beautiful.

Bird count was 80 with 15 species seen.

[Tuis](#) were the winners - they were everywhere, [chaffinches](#) next and of course, the [blackbirds](#) who were in top voice.

Several [bellbirds](#) were heard and once I arrived at the Dell, I saw two of them in the old kanaka tree. Pheasants were in good squawking form and easily flushed out of the long grass in a frantic bid to get away.

Another pleasant day at Whareroa was had.
Very Best Wishes to all!
Cheers, Helen

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Bonus photos from Whareroa Farm, Dec 20, 2022....

Dramatic grassy fields....



Mammals finding moments of solace and peace in the warm Whareroa Farm....



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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) with as many details as possible (time, place, behaviour) and most ideally with photos and videos.

Background info from the wonderful 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 (42 walkthrough visits up to and including 20.12.22)

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 around 80 birds per walkthrough (the range is 37 to 130).

- On December 20, 2022: 15 species & 80 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)
- 12 species were sighted/heard during at least 66% (27 or more) of visits: Bellbird, Blackbird, Chaffinch, Eastern Rosella, Fantail, Grey Warbler, Magpie, Paradise Shelduck, Pukeko, Silvereye, Thrush & Tui
- Most recorded / Top 5 in alphabetical order: Blackbird (335), Chaffinch (308), Fantail (269), Silvereyes (303), Tui (332)
- 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 (6, 15), White Faced Heron (2, 3)

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BIRDS RECORDED at Whareroa Farm, 'Walk Through' – Occasional Report, Part 1

Date	Begin Time	End Time	Bellbird	Blackbacked Gull	Blackbird	Black Swan	California quail	Canada Goose	Chaffinch	Dunnock	Eastern rosella	Falcon	Fantail	Goldfinch	Greenfinch	Grey warbler	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												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			3	69	17		
10. Okt 18	9.40	11.30			8				18		2		2	14	6	1	2		2			4		5														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	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				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			4	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	
19. Nov 21	9.16	11.30	1		7				11		1		6	4	6				1	3		14	2	5			1	6			6		2	10		2			88	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	
10. Mär 22	9.28	11.24		15	6		4				6		3	20	4		5	1	4			3		14				2	4					7					98	15	
11. Apr 22	8.43	10.30	1		7				5		2		7	1	7									4					18		1	1	2		5					58	14
23. Mai 22	1.11pm-2.53 pm		2		8				3				20	3	3	1								6					23	4			3	12						88	12

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BIRDS RECORDED at Whareroa Farm, 'Walk Through' – Occasional Report, Part 2

Date	Begin Time	End Time	Bellbird	Blackbacked Gull	Blackbird	Black Swan	California quail	Canada Goose	Chaffinch	Dunnoek	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
21. Jun 22	9.53	12.00	5		10				2		2		9	16		1				5		7		7				3			43	1	2	10			123	15
14. Jul 22	9.30	10.45		1	9						2		5			1				2	2	2		5			2					5	1				37	12
23. Aug 22	2.00	3.30			6				5		3		3			3	1		1	2		2		5			2				2		5		6		46	14
16. Sep 22	9.25	11.07	3		11				20		3		9			8	1	5	2	1		1	5	8						4	2	2	2	12			97	17
27. Okt 22	9.40	11.30	1		6				9		1		3		3	5				1			2	6			4	4				2	3	2			52	15
14. Nov 22	9.20	11.30	1		12		1		14				4			7	2			3		2	2	2			4	8	2		4	5		8			81	17
20. Dez 22	11.54	1.47	6		11		6		12		1		5			2		1		1			5				4	2		5		2	17			80	15	

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