

Bird Count Walkthrough

February 22, 2024

Hello

A superb day, so off to the farm.

Today it was a leisurely walk to the Dell, and back through the lovely Toetoe Flats track.



Sixteen species seen or heard and 73 birds counted.



Most of the [tui](#) action was near the Dell and Ti Kouka.

The [kereru](#) were seen over in the Matai bush then near the Dell - it was great to see so many.

[Eastern rosellas](#) were in the Gums. So it was very busy in that part of the farm!

The track out, through the Toetoe Flats is so lovely - green and lush, which is a nice thing when everywhere else is so dry. It is well maintained with steps and a bridge over the old boggy part.

Thanks to all concerned!
Until next time, Helen

Ann reports: The giant totara in the dell (Helen's photo above) is dropping seeds and [Rosella](#) and [tui](#) have been around it. I picked up 150 seeds on the ground on Sunday (Ann's photo, right). Quite a few had their fruits still attached. There were also lots which had been snipped by beaks so good to know that birds are being nourished.



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Kokekohe Bush



A pukeko looking for a weka



Carex in the Dell



View from Ti Kouka

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The Search for the Whareroa Weka

Many months ago, and again in October 2023, there have been verbal reports of potential possible weka sightings in Whareroa Farm, but no definitive confirmatory (photographic) proof yet.

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://Weka | New Zealand Birds Online (nzbirdsonline.org.nz))



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Data Table – some analysis

A bit of data crunching from the attached table (52 walkthrough visits up to and including 22.02.24)

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.

In approximately 2 hours, Helen records on average, a total number of around 80 birds per walkthrough (the range is 37 to 132).

- On February 22, 24: 16 species & 73 birds recorded (seen or heard).
- 3 species have been recorded during every walk-through: Blackbird, Tui & Fantail (Grey Warblers have not been recorded twice during separate visits, otherwise they would be in this exclusive group too)
- 13 species were sighted/heard during at least 63% (33 or more) of visits: Bellbird, Blackbird, Chaffinch, Eastern Rosella, Fantail, Grey Warbler, Magpie, Paradise Shelduck, Pukeko, Silvereye, Starling, Thrush & Tui
- Most recorded / Top 6 in alphabetical order: Blackbird, Chaffinch, Fantail, Grey warbler, Pukeko, Silvereye, Tui (plus starling but only as a large flock was spotted on 4.10.23)
- Least sighted in this series of reports (in alphabetical order, how often sighted, total number): Dunnock (4, 5), Falcon (2, 3), Mallard (5, 9), 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	Dunrook	Eastern rosella	Falcon	Fanail	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									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	
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				14				2	4					7			98	15	
11. Apr 22	8.43	10.30	1		7				5		2		7	1		2						2		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	Dunmock	Eastern rosella	Falcon	Fantail	Goldfinch	Greenfinch	Greywarbler	Harrier	Kereru	Kingfisher	Maggie	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							43	1	2	10			123	15	
14-Jul-22	9.30	10.45		1	9						2		5			1				2	2	2		5									5	1			37	12	
23-Aug-22	2.00	3.30			6				5		3		3		3	1			1	2		2		5								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	12			97	17	
27-Oct-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-Dec-22	11.54	1.47	6		11		6		12		1		5			2		1		1			5					4	2		5		2	17			80	15	
20-Jan-23	9.00	11.05	1		8				10		2		5		1	3	1	2	1	2				10				6	2		3	2	2	11			72	18	
27-Feb-23	9.25	11.27		4	3					2	3		11			1	1	4		2				2				9	6		7	3		7			65	15	
14-Apr-23	9.32	11.43	1		8				4		7		3	4		2	1			4		2					18	1		2			9			64	14		
23-May-23	9.36	11.30	2		4				6				15					1		1		2	1	5			19	2	1	1		10	9				79	15	
16-Jun-23	10.41	13.00	2		12				2		1		15			3	2	1		5		2		7			7			1		2	11			73	15		
18-Jul-23	10.25	12.24	6	1	6				1				12			6		2					7				2		2	67	3	4	9			128	14		
29-Aug-23	10.33	12.30	2	5	4				9		4		10	4		4		3			2	4	1	4			4			1	3	2	7			69	17		
04-Oct-23	9.40	11.30	3		8		1		9		4		5			4	2	2	2	2		2	2	2					72	4	1	9			132	17			
29-Jan-24	9.30	11.20	2	1	7		2		3		3		3	4		1				2				7			3	4		3	3		6			54	16		
22-Feb-24	9.00	10.48	1	1	7		2				4		6			3		6	1	5			6					5		10	4		12			73	16		

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