

Bird Count Walkthrough

March 22, 2024

Hello

Had a really lovely walk today.
The farm looked so neat and tidy, and very welcoming!
Thanks to all the track mowers and pruners.



I went up to the hub through my favourite Toetoe Flats track.

Lots of activity, with birds flitting about (making it hard to identify) and [bellbirds](#) heard in the kohekohe forest.

I carried on up the Carex valley - first time for months, maybe years! - right to the old stile at the bottom of the Horse track.

The beginning and the end was alive with [tui](#) and [silvereeyes](#).

At the Horse track end they were busily feeding on [mahoe](#) and [fivefingers](#).

The middle part was fairly quiet except for a large number of [maggies](#) and then, on my way back, a flock of brightly coloured [chaffinches](#) (it must have been a boy's day out!)

No sign of [kaka](#) or [whiteheads](#) alas!

Saw doggie dunnit on the gum tree track which was not good - only downside to a great day.

Thanks to all concerned!

Until next time, Helen

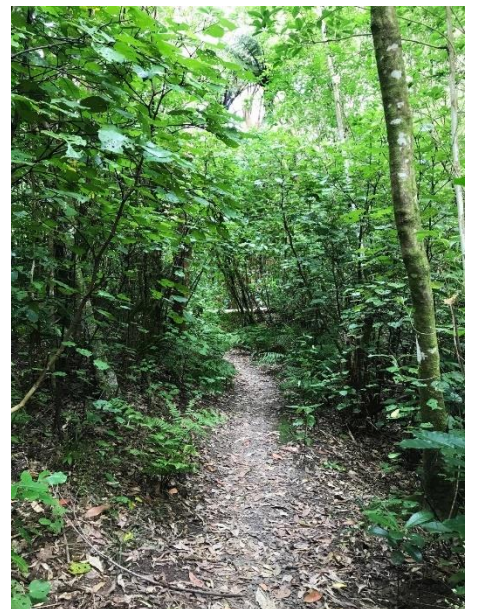


Photo of the entrance...



More toetoe flats photos...



And a stereotypical bucolic image from Whareroa Farm on 22.3.24...



Whareroa Guardians Community Trust

The Search for the Whareroa Weka

In the last few years, last time 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 (53 walkthrough visits up to and including 22.03.24)

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: 15 species & 91 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 62% (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						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	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	Dunnoek	Eastern rosella	Falcon	Fantail	Goldfinch	Greenfinch	Greywarbler	Harrier	Keruru	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								3			43	1	2	10			123	15	
14-Jul-22	9.30	10.45		1	9						2		5			1					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	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				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						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	
22-Mar-24	9.30	12.05	4		6		1		9		1		11		1	1		2		7		2		3				23	3	1				16			91	15	

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