

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON BIRD BANDING IN NEW ZEALAND 1972-73

By C. J. R. ROBERTSON

Wildlife Service, Department of Internal Affairs, Wellington

During the year ended 31 March 1973 a total of 29,680 birds were banded while 9,923 recoveries and 9,582, repeats received during the year were added to the records of the New Zealand Banding Scheme. Continuing progress has been made in the checks of data on computer files. During the year the incorporation of a series of programmes to deal with duplicate records caused by the rebanding of birds has caused some changes to be made in the recovery totals for some species. Seven new species have been included for the first time.

TABLE ONE — PROVISIONAL SUMMARY

Species Banded 1972-73	.....	.....	.....	.....	97
Total Species Banded	.....	.....	.....	.....	185
Species Recovered 1972-73	.....	.....	.....	.....	81
Total Species Recovered	.....	.....	.....	.....	130
Species with more than 10,000 Banded	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Species with more than 1,000 Recovered	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
Percentage Recovered:					
Game Species	.....	.....	.....	.....	23.74%
Non-Game Species	.....	.....	.....	.....	11.20%
All Species	.....	.....	.....	.....	15.64%

Details of the numbers per species banded and recovered are shown in Table 2 while a selection of interesting age and distance recoveries is shown in Table 3.

The Wildlife Service provides the administrative structure for the National Banding Scheme and the Banding Office staff of three also undertake data processing and computer servicing for a steadily growing range of other biological data. Since 1967 a Banding Advisory Committee has provided useful advice on the policies of banding in New Zealand. Personnel include the Chairman and Secretary from the Wildlife Service, two appointed by the Ornithological Society of New Zealand, one appointed by the National Museum and one representing universities appointed by the Wildlife Service. The committee meets at least once annually or as the need arises.

The reporting of banding results has been fully discussed during the past two years and the following policy agreed upon:

- (i) That recovery information should not be published in detail before banding operators have an opportunity to complete studies.

- (ii) That a general report giving basic banding data and a selection of interesting recoveries shall be produced each year in *Notornis*.
- (iii) Requests for the use of detailed banding data should be addressed to the Banding Officer, Wildlife Service, who shall consult with the banding operators concerned. In the event of any dispute the decision of the Advisory Committee shall be final and may include a time limit after which the information can be made generally available.

I continue to be indebted to banding operators for their co-operation and to my assistants G. Hatzakortzian, Mrs S. J. McKenzie and her replacement Mrs J. Llewellyn for their painstaking work; the Government Engineering Computer Centre (Ministry of Works) for the use of their facilities, maintenance of "BIRDBAND" and assistance with retrieval programmes; the Government Computer Centre for card punching and verification, and my other colleagues in the Wildlife Service for their assistance.

TABLE TWO

BANDING AND RECOVERY TOTALS

Number banded = New Birds Only

() Provisional Total Only.

Recoveries = Birds Recovered at least once.

+ = New Species 1972-73

Repeat = Extra Recoveries for birds recovered once.

Page 1	SPECIES NAME	NUMBER Banded			RECOVERIES			REPEAT RECOVERIES		
		PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL	PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL	PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL
	North Island Kiwi	25	5	30	-	12	12	-	-	-
	Yellow Eyed Penguin +	0	17	17	-	1	1	-	-	-
	Northern Blue Penguin	1176	124	1300	511	120	631	2303	177	2480
	Southern Blue Penguin	223	47	270	17	6	23	2	1	3
	White-flipped Penguin	1131	450	1581	116	19	135	14	12	26
	Fiordland Crested Penguin	233	73	306	11	7	18	-	1	1
	Snares Crested Penguin	642	151	793	133	-	133	23	8	31
	Erect-crested Penguin	28	2	30	-	1	1	-	-	-
	Wandering Albatross	1150	584	1734	70	-	70	86	2	88
	Southern Royal Albatross	19062	99	19161	2209	9	2218	1441	117	1558
	Black-browed Mollymawk	10042	0	10042	590	3	593	42	-	42
	Grey-headed Mollymawk	3089	0	3089	509	1	510	137	4	141
	Buller's Mollymawk	623	863	1486	269	2	271	100	2	102
	White-capped Mollymawk	532	19	551	22	2	24	2	-	2
	Light-mantled Sooty Albatross	349	1	350	24	1	25	1	2	3
	Giant Petrel	891	68	959	152	31	183	59	34	93
	Cape Pigeon	6784	4	6788	520	-	520	33	3	36
	Grey-faced Petrel	13233	8	13241	277	2	279	51	1	52
	White-headed Petrel	28	3	31	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Kermadec Petrel	944	0	944	-	10	10	-	-	-
	Pycroft's Petrel	209	6	216	20	1	21	42	-	42
	Black-winged Petrel	2002	9	2011	-	-	-	-	-	-

SPECIES NAME <u>Page 2</u>	NUMBER Banded			RECOVERIES			REPEAT RECOVERIES		
	PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL	PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL	PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL
Auckland Island Prion +	0	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fairy Prion	32831	245	33076	1211	19	1230	99	6	105
Black Petrel	38	41	79	2	5	7	-	-	-
Westland Black Petrel	358	56	414	3	6	9	-	-	-
Flesh-footed Shearwater	1541	86	1627	59	-	59	2	-	2
Buller's Shearwater	364	263	627	-	1	1	-	-	-
Sooty Shearwater	3108	617	3725	130	151	281	20	1	21
Fluttering Shearwater	980	75	1055	62	-	62	14	-	14
Hutton's Shearwater	291	59	350	3	-	3	-	-	-
N. Is. Little Shearwater	281	3	284	1	-	1	-	-	-
White-faced Storm Petrel	4191	332	4523	372	29	401	89	12	101
Black-bellied Storm Petrel	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diving Petrel	6330	130	6460	688	-	688	371	2	373
Australian Gannet	12347	56	12403	2006	24	2030	2965	465	3430
Pied Shag	129	0	129	34	1	35	6	1	7
Little Shag	19	1	20	2	-	-	-	-	-
Auckland Island Shag +	0	154	154	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-faced Heron	12	0	12	1	1	2	1	-	1
Black Swan	(26294)	621	(26915)	(5796)	268	(6064)	(2)	-	(2)
Canada Goose	(21943)	1200	(23143)	(12302)	656	(12958)	(8221)	466	(8687)
Paradise Duck	(15217)	3639	(18856)	(2660)	671	(3331)	(158)	103	(261)
Mallard	(52858)	3736	(56594)	(10333)	1478	(11811)	(1022)	921	(1943)

SPECIES NAME	NUMBER Banded			RECOVERIES			REPEAT RECOVERIES		
	PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL	PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL	PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL
Page 2									
Hybrid Mallard (Cross)	(1475)	45	(1520)	(347)	54	(401)	(3)	27	(30)
Grey Duck	(3057)	625	(31152)	(9257)	355	(9612)	(127)	139	(266)
Grey Teal	(841)	118	(959)	(111)	57	(168)	(31)	20	(51)
Brown Teal	71	4	75	5	1	6	-	-	-
N.Z. Shoveler	(167)	204	(371)	(18)	24	(42)	(3)	-	(3)
Blue Duck	(16)	47	(63)	(3)	16	(19)	(-)	4	(4)
N.Z. Scaup	0	5	5	-	3	3	-	-	-
Australasian Harrier	1232	139	1371	328	27	355	142	16	158
N.Z. Falcon	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Partridge	(11718)	1042	(12760)	(905)	133	(1038)	(6)	1	(7)
Californian Quail	12035	103	12138	(112)	3183	3295	(1)	1998	1999
Pheasant	(45392)	203	(45595)	(3829)	163	(3992)	(8)	-	(8)
North Island Weka	2510	162	2672	112	4	116	52	1	53
Pukeko	839	115	954	(82)	8	(90)	(2)	3	(5)
Notornis	108	0	108	11	45	56	11	157	168
S. Is. Pied Oystercatcher	735	2	737	166	9	175	93	19	112
Variable Oystercatcher	125	0	125	53	10	63	69	24	93
Chatham Is. Oystercatcher	12	0	12	-	1	1	-	-	-
Black Oystercatcher	101	0	101	6	2	8	10	-	10
Spur-winged Plover	519	5	524	21	148	169	-	437	437
N.Z. Dotterel	47	2	49	4	-	4	8	-	8
Banded Dotterel	409	14	423	13	-	13	33	5	38

SPECIES NAME <u>Page 5</u>	NUMBER Banded			RECOVERIES			REPEAT RECOVERIES		
	PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL	PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL	PREVIOUS	1972-73	TOTAL
Grey Warbler	241	37	278	22	8	30	34	17	51
N. Is. Fantail	141	19	160	25	9	34	62	6	68
Pied Tit	92	12	104	26	3	29	49	8	57
Chatham Is. Tit	0	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Island Robin	200	142	342	4	60	64	-	-	-
Black Robin	9	4	13	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Thrush	2137	29	2166	261	5	266	127	6	133
Blackbird	4236	126	4362	1085	6	1091	1358	42	1400
Silvereye	27681	4116	31797	3220	1116	4336	4966	1912	6878
Bellbird	967	37	1004	79	12	91	74	13	87
Tui	315	11	326	30	7	37	10	-	10
Yellowhammer	475	10	485	102	-	102	66	-	66
Chaffinch	1230	36	1266	224	6	230	397	7	404
Greenfinch	3070	194	3264	504	27	531	914	4	918
Goldfinch	1651	10	1661	62	-	62	15	-	15
Redpoll	4879	2	4881	1102	1	1103	3002	-	3002
House Sparrow	18515	677	19192	1846	38	1884	710	7	717
Starling	3080	1649	4729	287	24	311	30	6	36
Myna	1224	104	1328	294	3	297	125	-	125
N. Is. Saddleback	246	0	246	15	35	50	11	6	17
White-backed Magpie	48	3	51	13	-	13	23	-	23
Rook	957	0	957	259	1	260	102	-	102
75 Species NOT Banded or Recovered 1972/73	4048	-	4048	115	-	115	14	-	14
PROVISIONAL TOTALS	584305	29680	613985	86122	9923	96045	46214	9582	55796

TABLE THREE

A SELECTION OF INTERESTING RECOVERIES RECEIVED 1972-73

Page 1

AGE AT BANDING. P = CHICK/JUV. A = ADULT J = JUVENILE U = UNKNOWN

HOW RECOVERED. X = DEAD V = RELEASED ALIVE ≠ = BREEDING S = SIGHT U = UNKNOWN

SPECIES	BAND	BANDED		RECOVERY		AGE	DISTANCE
		LOCALITY, AGE AND DATE		LOCALITY, HOW AND DATE			
White-flipped Penguin	P-1554	Motunau Is.	P. 7.12.61	Motunau Is.	V. 27.12.72	Y.M.D. 11-0-20	
Fiordland Crested Penguin	J-355	Jacksons Head	A. 22. 8.66	Jacksons Head	V. 5. 2.72	5-5-14	
Snares Crested Penguin	J-907	Snares Is.	P. 28.12.71	Chatham Is.	V. 21. 2.73	1-1-25	<u>871 ENE</u>
Southern Royal Albatross	R-3728	Campbell Is.	P. 15. 8.65	Off Wilsons Prom. (Australia)	V. 2. 2.72	6-5-18	<u>1454 WNW</u>
" " "	R-22259	Campbell Is.	P. 10. 8.71	Huasco (Chile)	X. -. 1.72	0-5-?	<u>5805 SE</u>
Black-browed Mollymawk	M-26858	Campbell Is.	P. 31. 3.72	Tuamotu Archipelago	X. 26. 6.72	0-2-26	<u>3714 ENE</u>
" " "	M-27489	Campbell Is.	P. 8. 4.72	Tonga	X. 12. 7.72	0-3-3	<u>2424 NNE</u>
Grey-headed Mollymawk	M-26099	Campbell Is.	P. 25. 4.71	Great Exhibition Bay	V. 30. 5.71	0-1-4	<u>1247 N</u>
Bullers Mollymawk	M-14870	Snares Is.	A. -. 1.48	Snares Is.	V. 10. 2.72	24-0-?	
Fairy Prion	D-29149	Motunau Is.	A. 23.10.63	Motunau Is.	V. 27.12.72	9-2-4	
Buller's Shearwater	Z-17107	Poor Knights Is.	A. 3.12.64	Poor Knights Is.	V. 7. 1.73	8-1-4	
Sooty Shearwater	Z-144	Motunau Is.	A. 6.12.62	Motunau Is.	V. 27.12.72	10-0-21	
" "	Z-1030	Titi Is.	A. 3.12.69	La Jolla (U.S.A.)	V. 1. 6.72	2-5-28	<u>6625 NE</u>
Kermadec Petrel	E-36781	Meyer Is.	A. 19. 1.67	Meyer Is.	V. 11. 3.73	6-1-21	
Pycroft's Petrel	D-40178	Poor Knights Is.	A. 7.12.64	Poor Knights Is.	V. 1. 2.73	8-1-8	
White-faced Storm Petrel	C-4094	Motunau Is.	A. 23.10.63	Motunau Is.	V. 27.12.72	9-2-4	
Australian Gannet	M-14403	Cape Kidnappers	P. 19. 1.52	Herbertville	X. 15.10.72	20-8-26	<u>73 SSW</u>
Canada Goose	18-22039	Ellesmere L.	U. 10. 1.57	Ellesmere L.	V. 8. 1.73	15-2-4	
Black Swan	19-30389	Ellesmere L.	P. 26. 1.56	Ellesmere L.	V. 15. 1.73	16-11-19	
Paradise Duck	13-00028	Taihape Loc.	U. 23.11.61	Burkes Lagoon	V. 9. 1.73	11-1-16	<u>120 NE</u>
" "	13-17289	Lilburn Valley	P. 8.12.71	Manapouri	X. -. -.72	0-5-?	
Grey Teal	L-4295	Mount Bruce	P. 22. 3.69	Hawea L.	X. 6. 5.72	3-1-14	<u>404 SW</u>
" "	Z-4746	Mangere	P. 7. 5.71	Scargill	X. 17. 5.72	1-0-10	<u>425 SSW</u>
Grey Duck	17-3720	Whangape L.	P. 12. 2.61	Matamata Loc.	X. -. -.72	11-?-?	<u>45 SE</u>

SPECIES	BAND	BANDED LOCALITY, AGE AND DATE		RECOVERY LOCALITY, HOW AND DATE		AGE	DISTANCE
						Y.M.D.	
Mallard	17-13570	Otamauri	A. 9. 1.62	Waipaoa R.	X. 7. 5.72	10-3-27	<u>99 NE</u>
"	17-73507	Tuakitoto L.	P. 29. 1.70	Horotiu	X. 17. 5.72	2-3-17	<u>651 NNE</u>
N.Z. Shoveler	S-56162	Waituna Lagoon	A. 7. 2.72	Whangape L.	X. 16. 5.72	0-3-7	<u>715 NNE</u>
" "	Z-171	Pukepuke L.	P. 8.12.71	Gore Loc.	X. 17. 5.72	0-5-8	<u>505 SW</u>
Australasian Harrier	13686	Seddon	P. 25. 2.62	Stoke	X. 20. 2.72	10-11-25	<u>55 NW</u>
Californian Quail	23384	Cairnmuir	A. 30. 7.56	Cairnmuir	X. 13. 8.63	7-0-13	
Notornis	18491	Takahe Valley	A. 21. 1.55	Takahe Valley	S. 4. 2.67	12-0-14	
S. Is. Pied Oystercatcher	K-3512	Heathcote R.	A. 16. 6.70	Lumsden	X. 18.11.72	2-5-3	<u>261 SW</u>
Variable Oystercatcher	K-4663	Waipu	P. 18. 1.71	Eastbourne	S. 29. 6.72	1-5-10	<u>357 S</u>
Spur-winged Plover	E-61262	Invercargill Loc.	P. 9.11.61	Invercargill Loc.	X. 27. 6.71	9-7-16	
N.Z. Shore Plover	C-16602	Mangere Is.	A. 5.11.70	Mangere Is.	V. 12. 2.73	2-3-8	
Antarctic Skua	L-11212	Hallett C. (Antarct)	P. 1. 1.62	Hallett C. (Antarct)	V. 18. 1.73	11-0-?	
Black-backed Gull	S-1852	Rangitoto Is.	P. 20.12.59	Rangitoto Is.	X. 4. 1.73	13-0-15	
Red-billed Gull	E-76164	Kaikoura	P. 21.12.58	Kaikoura	V. 15.11.71	12-10-24	
" " "	E-78550	Kaikoura	P. 24.11.62	Onehunga	S. 22. 5.72	9-5-27	<u>383 N</u>
" " "	E-96981	Grassmere L.	P. 1.12.61	Kaikoura	V. 13.12.71	10-0-11	<u>52 SSW</u>
Black-billed Gull	E-7031	Wairau R.	P. 19.11.60	Banks Peninsula	S. 8.11.72	11-11-18	<u>149 S</u>
Caspian Tern	H-18667	Invercargill	P. 20.11.69	Ashley R.	X. (5.5.70)	0-5-13	<u>305 NE</u>
White-fronted Tern	7037	Clevedon	P. 12. 1.52	Ponui Is.	X. 31. 1.73	21-0-19	<u>5 NW</u>
Sooty Tern	D-9145	Raoul Is.	P. 20.12.61	Raoul Is.	V. 31.12.72	11-0-11	
Blackbird	D-42178	Christchurch	P. 29.11.65	Christchurch	X. 24.12.72	7-0-25	
Silvereye	A-29325	Lower Hutt	A. 20. 8.63	Lower Hutt	V. 16. 6.72	8-9-26	
House Sparrow	B-8740	Upper Hutt	P. 10. 1.64	Trentham	X. 14. 4.72	8-3-3	
" "	B-16254	Milford	A. 10.12.66	Milford	X. 18. 3.73	6-3-7	
Starling	D-57709	Milford	P. 9.12.66	Blockhouse Bay	X. 11.10.72	5-10-1	<u>11 S</u>
Myna	Y-140	Havelock North	P. 4. 4.66	Havelock North	X. 29. 1.73	6-9-26	
Rook	H-15183	Longlands Loc.	P. 27. 7.67	Longlands Loc.	X. 18.11.72	5-3-23	<u>8 W</u>