

## BEACH PATROL SCHEME 2014 - PRELIMINARY REPORT

This report is based on 231 cards for 2014 received as at 31.12.15. (There were 262 in 2013, 324 in 2012, 352 in 2011, 315 in 2010, 385 in 2009, 381 in 2008 and 403 in 2007). This shows a continuing decline in the number of beach patrols carried out. In 2014 1,069 kilometres were patrolled (1,388km in 2013, 1,625km in 2012, 1,846km in 2011, 3,210 in 2010, 4,470km in 2009, 2,524km in 2008 and 2,307 in 2007). Dead seabirds found in 2014 totalled 1,388 (4,851 in 2013, 1,924 in 2012, 57,920 in 2011, 3,266 in 2010, 4,763 in 2009, 3,906 in 2008, 3,786 in 2007 and 3,117 in 2006). There were no significant wrecks during the year and no especially unusual records. The largest wreck of a single species was of 80 Mottled petrels on Mason Bay on 31/12. The tail end of the Short-tailed shearwater wreck of late 2013 was still being seen in early 2014. The recovery of a Red-legged partridge was probably a first for the beach patrol scheme.

The average recovery rate for the whole country is around 1.33 birds per kilometre compared with the 2013 average of 3.65, largely influenced by a significant wreck of juvenile Sooty shearwaters in that year. The 2012 average was 1.8 birds and the 2011 average of 31 birds per kilometre was boosted by the huge prion wreck that year.

### **Birds recovered in 2014 (brackets indicate the 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010 and 2009 figures):**

Royal albatross 0 (2, 1, 1, 2, 5)  
Wandering albatross 1 (5, 3, 3, 5, 6)  
Shy/White-capped mollymawk 17 (18, 17, 25, 29, 40)  
Salvin's mollymawk 1 (3, 1, 2, 2, 4)  
Black-browed/Campbell mollymawk 1 (0, 1, 3, 1, 5)  
Grey-headed mollymawk 4 (0, 1, 4, 8, 8)  
Buller's mollymawk 23 (6, 14, 74, 27, 16)  
Sooty albatross 0 (0, 0, 1, 0, 0)  
Light-mantled Sooty albatross 7 (0, 4, 1, 3, 2)  
Yellow-nosed mollymawk 0 (0, 0, 0, 0, 1)  
Chatham Island mollymawk 0 (0, 0, 1, 0, 0)  
Mollymawk/Albatross sp. 2 (11, 9, 7, 16, 10)  
Northern Giant petrel 1 (1, 2, 6, 7, 6)  
Southern Giant petrel 1 (3, 3, 0, 17, 8)  
Giant petrel sp. 7 (0, 7, 6, 7, 6)  
Buller's shearwater 42 (65, 43, 282, 107, 456)  
Sooty shearwater 160 (2102, 253, 650, 1983, 417)  
Short-tailed shearwater 84 (944, 50, 8, 157, 116)  
Wedge-tailed shearwater 0 (0, 1, 0, 1, 1)  
Flesh-footed shearwater 1 (8, 25, 119, 22, 24)  
Fluttering shearwater 76 (184, 169, 471, 250, 402)  
Hutton's shearwater 17 (35, 61, 63, 59, 127)  
Little shearwater 10 (7, 1, 35, 14, 12)  
Diving petrel 158 (86, 57, 1146, 86, 111)  
White-chinned petrel 5 (2, 3, 5, 6, 2)  
Westland black petrel 0 (3, 1, 2, 0, 1)  
Black petrel 3 (1, 3, 3, 1, 2)  
Grey petrel 3 (1, 0, 0, 1, 0)  
Antarctic fulmar 5 (0, 6, 1, 59, 3)

Cape pigeon 3 (2, 13, 25, 41, 36)  
Blue petrel 4 (1, 1, 28, 9, 6)  
Fairy prion 51 (117, 113, 2304, 192, 226)  
Fulmar prion 0 (0, 1, 55, 2, 0)  
Broad-billed prion 17 (36, 224, 34630, 47, 43)  
Thin-billed prion 6 (4, 4, 1153, 14, 22)  
Salvin's prion 1 (3, 8, 2257, 3, 3)  
Antarctic prion 3 (1, 8, 1265, 4, 7)  
Prion sp. 87 (47, 123, 12169, 166, 109)  
Cook's petrel 8 (5, 2, 9, 19, 11)  
White-naped petrel 0 (0, 0, 0, 1, 0)  
Mottled petrel 106 (16, 46, 40, 27, 44)  
Black-winged petrel 1 (0, 0, 0, 2, 2)  
Pycroft's petrel 0 (1, 0, 0, 0, 1)  
Soft-plumaged petrel 4 (0, 0, 0, 0, 0)  
Gould's petrel 0 (0, 0, 1, 0, 0)  
Kerguelen petrel 3 (1, 2, 2, 0, 0)  
White-headed petrel 18 (8, 11, 9, 33, 7)  
Grey-faced petrel 13 (3, 7, 15, 17, 13)  
White-faced Storm petrel 4 (11, 5, 86, 6, 19)  
Grey-backed storm petrel 0 (0, 0, 0, 0, 1)  
Black-bellied storm petrel 0 (0, 0, 0, 0, 1)  
Storm petrel sp. 1 (1, 0, 5, 1, 0)  
Unidentified seabird 32 (23, 2, 5, 21, 25)  
Yellow-eyed penguin 2 (2, 2, 5, 5, 4)  
Blue penguin 64 (104, 61, 365, 420, 410)  
White-flipped penguin 13 (5, 19, 18, 5, 19)  
Fiordland crested penguin 3 (2, 4, 3, 1, 4)  
Erect crested penguin 1 (0, 1, 0, 0, 0)  
Red-tailed Tropic bird 0 (0, 1, 1, 0, 0)  
Tropic bird sp. 0 (0, 0, 0, 1, 0)  
Gannet 66 (63, 116, 115, 429, 213)  
Black shag 0 (2, 1, 3, 6, 4)  
Pied shag 15 (11, 10, 33, 32, 25)  
Little Black shag 1 (0, 0, 5, 1, 1)  
Little shag 2 (0, 1, 6, 3, 1)  
Spotted shag 46 (74, 146, 83, 47, 70)  
Stewart Island shag 22 (1, 9, 7, 9, 5)  
Auckland Island shag 0 (0, 0, 0, 1, 0)  
Pitt Island shag 0 (1, 0, 0, 0, 0)  
Shag sp. 1 (1, 0, 6, 0, 0)  
White-faced heron 0 (0, 0, 0, 1, 2)  
Spoonbill 1 (1, 0, 4, 2, 1)  
Black swan 12 (26, 15, 8, 12, 8)  
Feral goose 1 (0, 3, 2, 4, 7)  
Canada goose 4 (6, 6, 1, 0, 7)  
Paradise duck 3 (5, 13, 17, 4, 9)  
Mallard 1 (7, 4, 3, 8, 34)  
Domestic duck 0 (0, 0, 0, 1, 0)  
Grey duck 0 (0, 1, 0, 0, 1)  
Grey teal 1 (0, 3, 3, 0, 0)

Shovellor 0 (0, 2, 1, 0, 0)  
Scaup 0 (0, 2, 1, 0, 0)  
Harrier 1 (1, 3, 3, 4, 4)  
Turkey 0 (0, 0, 1, 4, 0)  
Peafowl 0 (1, 0, 0, 0, 0)  
Chicken 0 (2, 0, 2, 1, 3)  
Pheasant 0 (3, 0, 0, 0, 1)  
Red-legged partridge 1 (0, 0, 0, 0, 0)  
Weka 0 (0, 0, 1, 0, 0)  
Banded rail 0 (0, 0, 0, 1, 0)  
Pukeko 3 (1, 0, 1, 2, 5)  
Pied oystercatcher 4 (4, 6, 2, 1, 5)  
Variable oystercatcher 4 (0, 2, 1, 5, 2)  
Oystercatcher sp. 0 (0, 1, 0, 0, 0)  
Pied stilt 2 (1, 0, 0, 0, 0)  
Spur-winged plover 0 (1, 0, 0, 1, 1)  
Banded dotterel 0 (0, 0, 0, 2, 0)  
Godwit 0 (0, 2, 1, 0, 1)  
Black-backed gull 74 (68, 108, 90, 185, 114)  
Red-billed gull 17 (31, 28, 33, 21)  
Black-billed gull 4 (6, 7, 10, 8, 8)  
Gull sp. 1 (0, 0, 0, 0, 1)  
Brown skua 0 (0, 0, 0, 0, 4)  
Arctic skua 0 (0, 1, 0, 0, 0)  
Caspian tern 1 (2, 1, 3, 8, 1)  
White-fronted tern 14 (9, 15, 24, 34, 20)  
Arctic tern 0 (0, 0, 0, 1, 0)  
Sooty tern 0 (0, 0, 0, 1, 0)  
Tern sp. 0 (0, 1, 0, 0, 0)  
Native pigeon 3 (2, 3, 3, 2, 0)  
Domestic/feral pigeon 1 (3, 5, 3, 5, 2)  
Spotted dove 0 (1, 0, 0, 0, 0)  
Kaka 1 (0, 0, 0, 1, 0)  
Shining cuckoo 0 (0, 0, 0, 1, 0)  
Long-tailed cuckoo 0 (0, 0, 1, 0, 0)  
Kingfisher 0 (0, 0, 0, 1, 0)  
Blackbird 0 (4, 0, 0, 4, 1)  
Thrush 0 (0, 1, 4, 0, 4)  
Tui 2 (1, 0, 3, 1, 1)  
Starling 0 (0, 1, 1, 0, 1)  
Myna 0 (0, 0, 1, 1, 0)  
Yellowhammer 0 (0, 0, 0, 0, 1)  
Goldfinch 1 (1, 1, 1, 0, 2)  
House sparrow 0 (0, 0, 0, 0, 1)  
Silvereye 1 (0, 0, 0, 0, 1)  
Magpie 5 (5, 16, 14, 0, 9)  
Pipit 0 (0, 1, 1, 0, 0)  
Stewart Island kiwi 0 (1, 0, 0, 0, 0)  
Morepork 1 (1, 0, 0, 0, 0)  
Spine-tailed swift 1 (0, 0, 0, 0, 0)  
Bird sp. 0 (0, 3, 2, 3, 3)

<b>Section of Coast</b>	<b>No. of Cards</b>	<b>No. of Birds</b>	<b>km covered</b>
Auckland East AE	18	21	54
Auckland West AW	61	343	348
Bay of Plenty BP	20	155	84
Canterbury North CN	16	101	148
Canterbury South CS	3	12	2
East Coast NI EC	0	0	0
Fiordland FD	0	0	0
North Coast SI NC	2	38	6
Northland East NE	9	77	70
Northland West NW	4	61	38
Outlying Islands OI (Chatham)	0	0	0
Otago OT	4	13	2
Southland SD	54	385	189
Taranaki TA	11	88	66
Wairarapa WA	0	0	0
Westland WD	11	10	30
Wellington South WS	2	19	3
Wellington West WW	16	77	30
<b>Totals</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>1,388</b>	<b>1,069</b>

The continued success of the Beach Patrol Scheme is due to the dedication of those hardy souls who brave all manner of weather conditions to trudge the weary miles in search of decaying corpses. Please note any banded birds on the forms or cards and please note any obvious cause of death. There is a large supply of blank cards for those who prefer to use cards rather than the on-line form.

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