

Beach Patrol Scheme - 2021 Report

from co-ordinator Lloyd Esler on 1 April 2022

2021 produced no significant wrecks but several unusual records. There were single specimens of Pitt Island shag (on Chatham Island), Little spotted kiwi at Te Arai, Adelie Penguin on Mason Bay, Grey petrel at Otaki. There were no mass mortalities but an expected high mortality in a Red-billed gull colony on Mana Island and a season wreck of Mottled petrels on Stewart Island in December. The returns, compared to previous years, show a pleasing rise.

The figures as at 1 April 2022 are:

Cards or forms returned: 228 (145 in 2020, 161 in 2019, 270 in 2018, 230 in 2017, 253 in 2016, 210 in 2015, 231 in 2014, 262 in 2013, 324 in 2012 and 352 in 2011)

Birds: 1,427 (931 in 2020, 1,071 in 2019, 3,069 in 2018, 1,315 in 2017, 1,483 in 2016, 1,325 in 2015, 1,388 in 2014, 4,851 in 2013, 1,924 in 2012 and 57,920 in 2011)

Kilometres: 840 (688 in 2020, 710 in 2019, 1,013 in 2018, 885.3 in 2017, 1,189 in 2016, 1,014 in 2015, 1,069 in 2014, 1,388 in 2013, 1,625 in 2012 and 1,846 in 2011)

I have been contacting people posting beach-wrecked birds on iNaturalist and some of the results come from this source.

Lloyd Esler
Beach Patrol Scheme Convener