

Can you describe Fluttering Shearwater Moults from eBird?



Examination of digital images from Macaulay Library to determine avian molt strategies: A case study on molts and plumages in eight species of North American hummingbirds.

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Abstract—I examined a total of 27,581 images of 6,345 individuals from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Macaulay Library to clarify conflicting reports on molt and plumage strategies in eight species of hummingbirds that breed or have bred primarily in the southwestern United



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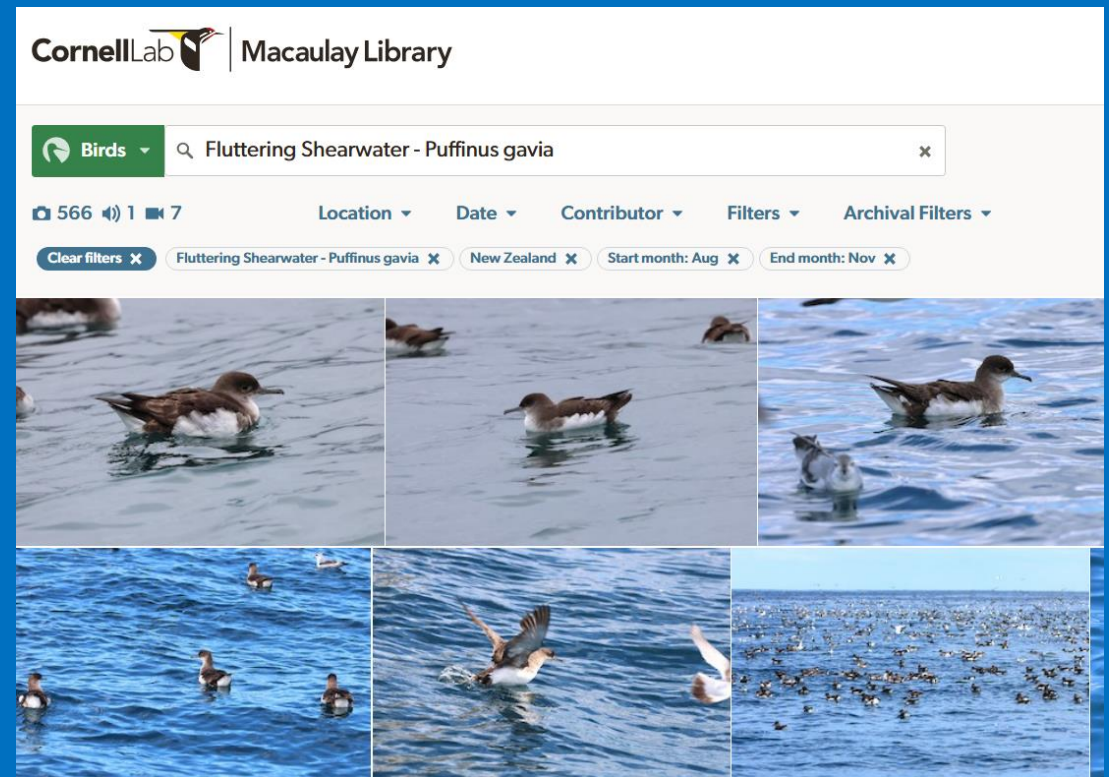
Aotearoa example?

- Seabird capital of the world, so looked for a seabird example.
- Hard to study moult traditionally, as birds moult post-breeding usually well out to sea.



Aotearoa example

- Fluttering Shearwater good example
- Lots of eBird records
- Lots of images attached to Checklists

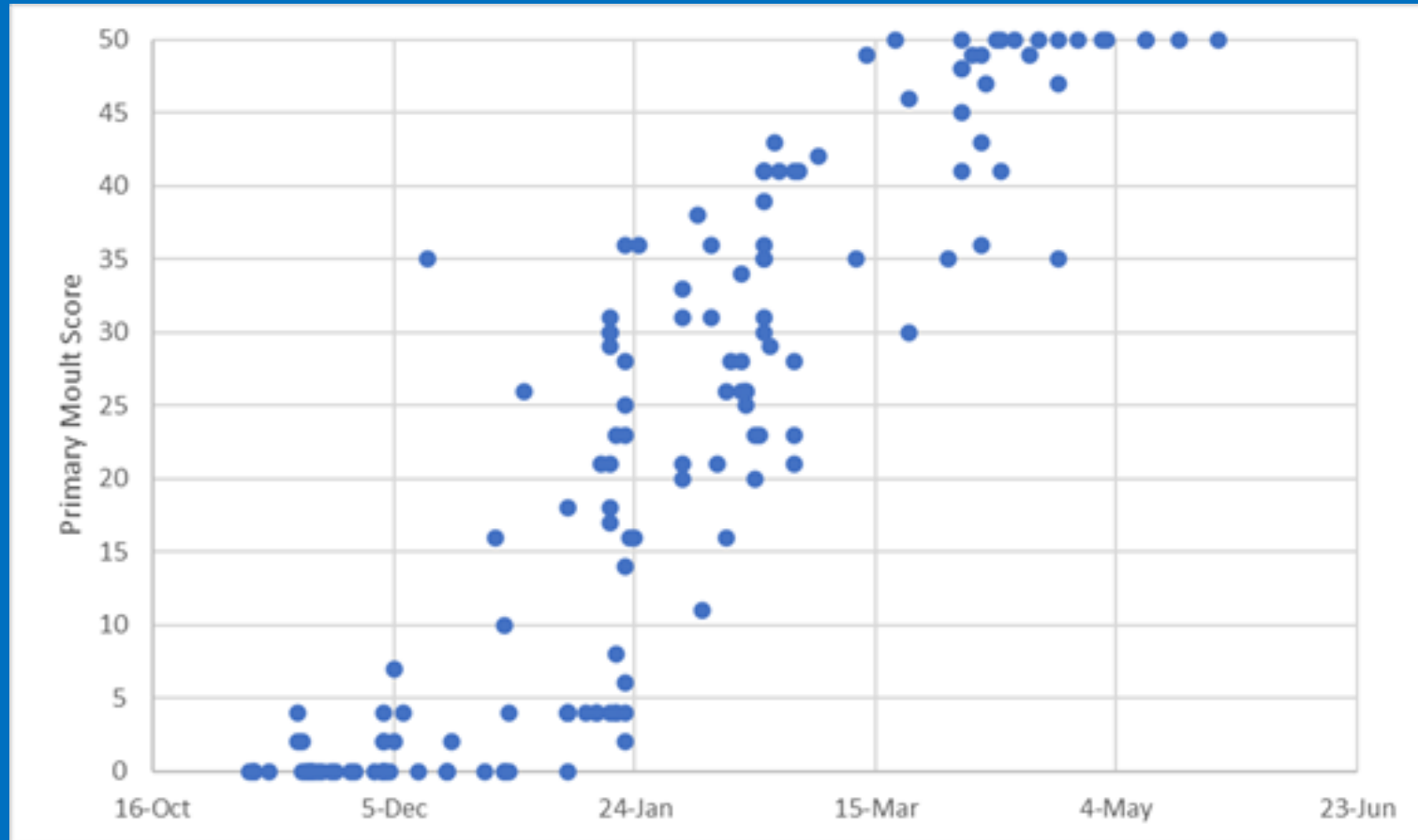


eBird Fluttering Shearwater records

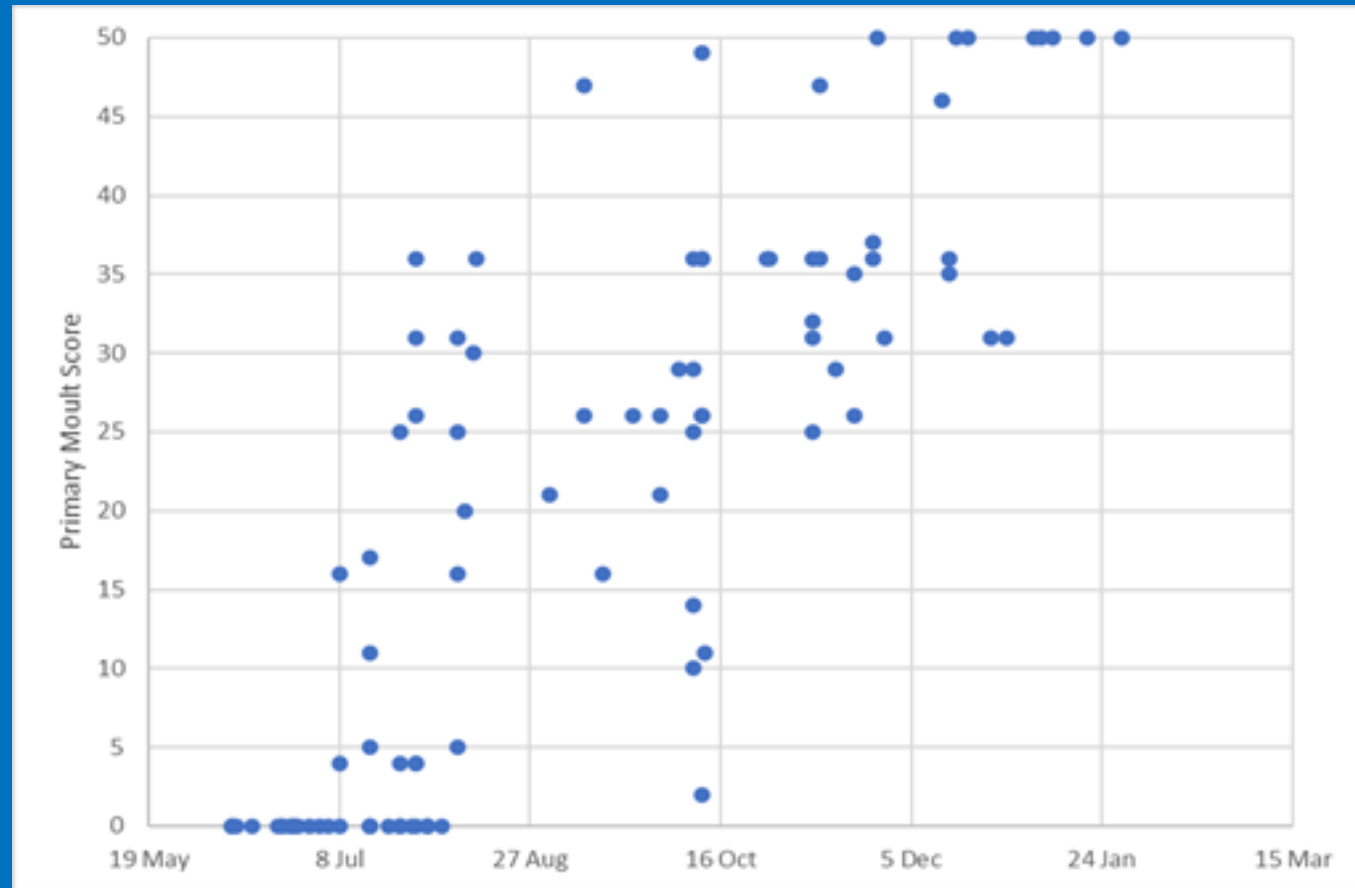


- As of June 2023
- 1,300 images in 700 in Aotearoa, 500 in Australia
- Only images where individuals could be assessed for moult were included.
- 224 Adults in Aotearoa (46% in moult)
- 203 first-year birds in Australia (26% in Moult)

Adult moult



Post-juvenile/ First-year moult



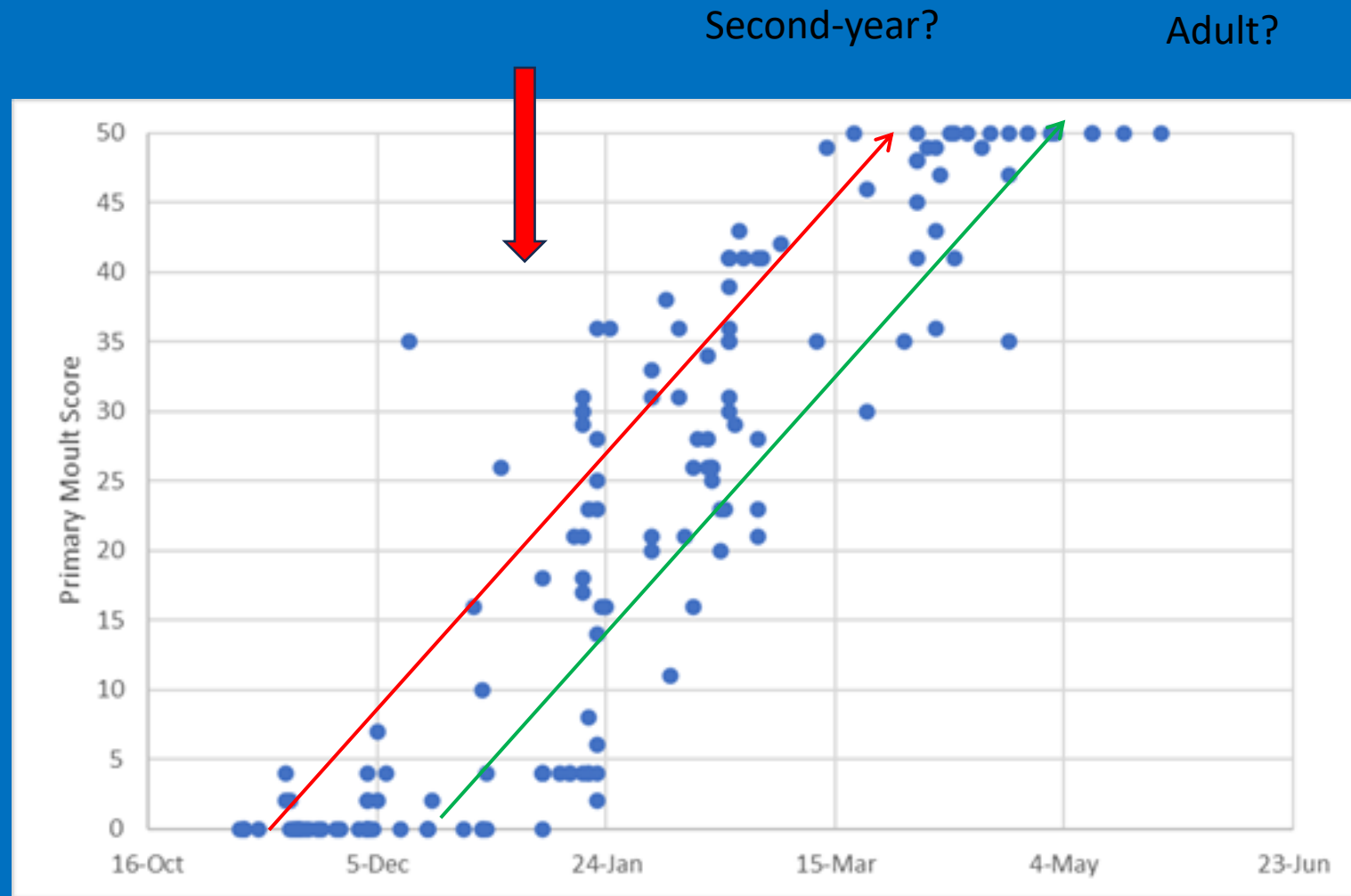
Early moulting birds?



Vs



Timing?



Acknowledgements

- David Melville for first introducing me to Moults!
- All eBird users and especially those who submit lists
- Dan Burgin for help learning eBird and how to access images
- Simon Lamb for moult discussions and help with stats