

BIRD OBSERVATIONS ON NORTH MEYER ISLET

In 1977, while on Raoul Island in the Kermadec Islands as a member of a management expedition, I made two visits to North Meyer Islet on 8 August and 12 October. I counted birds along a route up the south-west ridge to North Meyer's summit and down the north ridge.

KERMADEC PETREL *Pterodroma neglecta*

On 8 August 337 adults and 87 chicks were seen at nests. Most chicks were downy but others were near fully fledged. 50+ adults were flying overhead. By 12 October many of the young birds seen previously had left the nests.

KERMADEC LITTLE SHEARWATER *Puffinus assimilis kermadecensis*

An adult was seen from 2 m entering a burrow at the summit (122 m a.s.l.) on 8 August. Two burrows were seen and each held a chick in dark grey down.

MASKED (BLUE-FACED) BOOBY *Sula dactylatra personata*

On 8 August one adult was incubating two eggs on the exposed north ridge and five birds were circling the northern tip. An adult with a downy chick was at 52 m a.s.l. on the south-west ridge on 12 October.

SPOTLESS CRAKE *Porzana tabuensis plumbea*

One was seen running in *Cyperus ustulatus* on the north-western face on 12 October.

EASTERN GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis dominica fulva*

Two birds were resting on rock platforms near the sea on 12 October.

WHITE-CAPPED NODDY *Anous minutus*

On 8 August, 11 birds were resting in ngaios and on the ground. On 12 October, 20 birds were incubating eggs in nests among ngaios on the lower western slopes.

GREY TERNLET *Procelsterna cerulea albivitta*

Birds were on eggs at nest sites near sea-level on 8 August and 40+ birds were flying nearby. Several nests with downy chicks were seen on 12 October.

KERMADEC PARAKEET *Cyanoramphus novaezelandiae cyanurus*

Parakeets were in low ngaio scrub on the western slopes: 14 on 8 August and 3 on 12 October.

BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula*

One bird was seen in ngaio scrub on both visits.

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