

Watola, G. 2011. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (3rd Edition in prep.)  
Based on: Watola, G. 2009. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (2nd Edition)  
Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.  
Updated and amended text supplied by George Watola, October, 2011.  
Page numbers follow Watola, G. 2009 (2nd Edition)  
White-headed petrel: pp 58-59.

**White-headed Petrel** *Pterodroma lessonii* (Garnot 1826), Native  
1839 New Zealand  
01/01/1902 Ross Sea (630 S 1780 E) (Wilson 1907-12)  
21 July undated Norfolk Island

It was collected in "New Zealand seas" in 1839 during the *Astrolabe* and *Zelee* expedition. Finsch (1875) verified the specimen, as did Temminck and Coues. Finsch said "A specimen (Cat. No. 2.) labelled by Temminck "*Procellaria lessoni*, Astrol. and Zel., par Mons. Beligny, Nouvelle Zelande," is most probably *Pr. lessoni*, Young ".

Hutton (1868) apparently saw it between Great Barrier Island and North Cape in June 1866, when he voyaged from London to New Zealand. Hutton says it was seen every day from 22 May until he reached New Zealand. His last sighting was at 420 51' 1550 17' on 3/6/1866. No description is given however. He does describe it in his catalogue (1871) and gives the locality as "North Island".

Buller (1873) figures one in his first edition, and says this was obtained at the Bay of Islands.