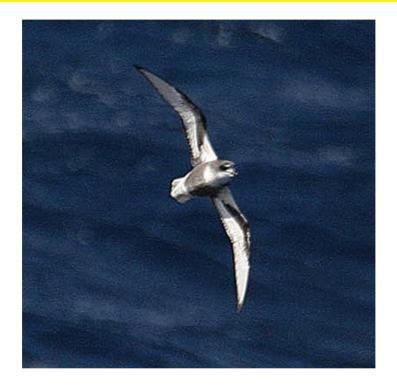
CHAMBERS, S. 2009.
Birds of New Zealand - Locality Guide. 3rd edn.
Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.
Mottled petrel: pp 61-62.



## **MOTTLED PETREL**

Family Procellariidae
Species Pterodroma inexpectata
Common name Mottled Petrel
Status Endemic
Abundance Common
Size 340 mm (cf sparrow 145 mm)

**Breeding islands close to New Zealand** Breeds on Snares Island, the islands in Foveaux Strait and around Stewart Island including Big South Cape and Codfish Island. On Codfish Island a small colony of Cooks Petrel also breed which can cause confusion when both species are viewed together at sea.

Breeding months November to April. Birds lay 1 white egg in a burrow.

Range worldwide North of New Zealand up the Pacific in a wide band to Alaska.

New Zealand range Around New Zealand near its breeding islands.

## Description

**Crown** Grey with dark grey feather scalation above bill. **Upperparts and upperwings** Dark grey with black open M marking from wing tip across rump to wing tip. **Uppertail** Grey. **Underparts** White with prominent grey abdomen patch. **Underwings** White with bold black incomplete V marking. **Tail** Grey with a broad black tip.

## Differences between Mottled Petrel and Cooks Petrel

- Mottled Petrel is a bigger bird.
- Mottled Petrel has a dark grey abdominal patch.
- Mottled Petrel has a noticeable black V underwing marking.
- Mottled Petrel has an overall darker upperwing and a darker M marking on the upperwing than has Cooks Petrel.

## Where to find - Stewart Island

**Foveaux Strait** – From the Foveaux Strait ferry.

**Stewart Island waters** – Expect it from any waters right around Stewart Island and to the Southland Coast. P. 367.