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)
Wedge-tailed shearwater: pp 68-69.

Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus pacificus pacificus* (Gmelin 1789), Native 1790 Norfolk Island
1890 Kermadec Islands

It was described by Gmelin in 1789, and was collected on Cook's first voyage. Mathews restricted the type locality to "Kermadec Island". Oliver was adamant that Cook did not go near the Kermadecs, which is clear from the ship's track; and that the type had been collected in the Society Islands.

King (1980) first recorded it on Norfolk Island in 1790. Buller (1888) said there were two specimens from the North Island, which were in Salvin's collection. Presumably these are still in the British Museum, but these records have not been verified.

Thomas Bell then collected it from the Kermadecs in 1890. Cheeseman (1890) referred the "black burrower" to *P. carneipes*, although he was not certain of the identification as he only had fledglings as specimens. He also mentioned one specimen of *P. chlororhynchus* (sic) from Raoul Island. Marchant & Higgins (1990) and Dickinson (2003) considered this species to be monotypic. There are dark morphs and pale morphs. Only the dark morph breeds at the Kermadecs.

Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus pacificus chlororhynchus* Lesson 1831, Vagrant (3) 21/01/1962 Makara Beach, Wellington

Pale morph birds from the North Pacific have been recorded on New Zealand beaches, the first at Makara, Wellington on 26/1/1962 by Mrs D. McGrath (Falla 1962b). Checklist Committee (OSNZ) (2010) still recognizes *P. p. chlororhynchos*.