Text and images extracted from Aikman, H. & Miskelly, C. (2004). Birds of the Chatham Islands. Department of Conservation, Wellington. Page 25.

Subantarctic little shearwater Puffinus assimilis elegans

30 cm

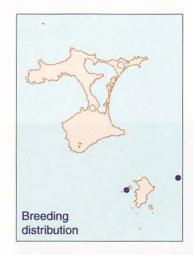


Also called allied shearwater, this is a small black-and-white shearwater with blue feet and legs. It is slightly larger than a diving petrel, with a

more slender bill and body. This subspecies is widely dispersed, breeding in large numbers on the Antipodes Islands, and also on islands in the South Atlantic. The Chatham Islands population is small, with an estimated 100 plus pairs breeding on the Star Keys, and possibly some birds on Tapuaenuku. Little shearwaters are winter breeders, nesting in

burrows 0.3-2 metres long.





Subantarctic little shearwater near Antipodes Island. Photo: Mike Danzenbaker.