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Birds of New Zealand - Locality Guide. 3rd edn.

Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.

New Zealand storm petrel: p 68.



NEW ZEALAND STORM PETREL

Family Oceanitidae

Species *Pealeornis maorianus*

Common name New Zealand Storm Petrel

Status Endemic

Abundance Rare – probably local waters only. A recently discovered storm petrel, which is now considered to be *Oceanites maorianus*, as collected by the *Astrolabe* Expedition in 1829.

Size 180 mm (House Sparrow 145 mm, Fluttering Shearwater 300 mm).

Breeding months Unknown.

Major breeding islands near New Zealand Unknown.

Range worldwide Unknown.

New Zealand range Waters around Little Barrier Island.

Description

Head, neck, throat and upper breast Black. **Upperwings** Sooty black with darker black primary feathers. **Underwing** Black with whitish inner. **Rump and tail** Black. **Underparts** White with black streaked abdomen markings. **Legs and feet** Black.

Conspicuous features

- Feet extend behind tail when in flight.
- Tail is square.

Conspicuous characteristics

- Dips constantly into the sea with feet touching water.
- Does not walk on the water as does the White-faced Storm Petrel.

Where to find – North Island

North Auckland – Towards and beyond Little Barrier Island. Birds are regularly seen in these waters over the summer months which suggests they may be nesting on one of Northland's offshore islands. Such a location has not yet been established. P. 289.