

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-tailed tropicbird: p 85.

White-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon lepturus dorotheae*, Vagrant (15)
27/1/1973 Whakatane, Bay of Plenty
February 1973 Norfolk Island

S.R. Brown (1973) found a Tropicbird skull two miles west of the Whakatane River mouth in January 1973. The bill was malformed with the mandibles being crossed over. F.C. Kinsky identified the skull as a juvenile White-tailed Tropicbird. Oliver (1955) mentioned an unconfirmed record of one to three birds at Doubtless Bay in April and June 1937. Eleven have now been found on the Beach Patrol Scheme, two more than the Kermadec-breeding Red-tailed Tropicbird.