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)
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Pacific heron: p 101.

**Pacific Heron** *Ardea pacifica* Latham 1802, Vagrant (9) April 1952 Methven, Canterbury July 1978 Norfolk Island

A local farmer, John T. Oram, found the first bird in mid-April 1952, 30 km inland of Ashburton. He sent a description to R.H.D. Stidolph (1952), then editor of Notornis. It was seen into late July, sharing a small pond with five geese. An influx of the species into southern Victoria at the same time may have been related to the appearance of this bird.

The other records are: Norfolk Island, July-September 1978; Matamata, 1978; Onepu, Houhora, October 1981; Waipu, January 1984; Hokitika, June-July 2002; Oamaru, January-March 2003; Stratford, May-June 2003 and Auckland, October-November 2005.

