

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)  
Least sandpiper: p 264.

**Least Sandpiper** *Calidris minutilla* (Viellot 1819), Vagrant (1)  
21/11/1952 Wairoa River, Hawkes Bay

R.H.D. Stidolph (1953) and his wife saw a very small wader “like a skylark” at the Wairoa River-mouth. A description and notes on the call were made, which appeared to rule out other species. It is tiny even in comparison to a Red-necked Stint. Other records of “yellow-legged stints” come from Ahuriri (1953-54) and Manukau (1972). Checklist Committee (OSNZ) (2010) regards it as possibly recorded in New Zealand, but includes it in the main list.