

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)
Pied stilt: p 131.

Pied Stilt (Poaka) *Himantopus himantopus leucocephalus* Gould 1837, Coloniser
1854 Waikato
April or May 1892 Norfolk Island

It was first collected in the Waikato district in 1854 (Buller 1874c). This appears to be the earliest record, according to Oliver. Ellman (1861) said that they were the torment of duck shooters, by incessantly crying “peet peet”, which ensured that “every duck takes wing”. It is probably a recent immigrant, following wide-spread habitat changes after Polynesian colonisation (Holdaway et al. 2001).

