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Little tern: p 160.

Eastern Little Tern *Sternula albifrons sinensis* (Gmelin 1789), Migrant
19/3/1953 Miranda, South Auckland

Small terns were seen from 1949 onwards in the Firth of Thames by many observers (McKenzie & Sibson 1957). At first thought to be Fairy Terns, closer study indicated that they were Little Terns. The first sighting of suspected Little Terns was of two on 31/1/1949 at the Piako river-mouth, by Ross McKenzie. The first positive identification appears to be that by Ross McKenzie, who described one in full adult breeding plumage at Miranda on 19/3/53. Birds from both Japan and Australia occur in New Zealand. Dickinson (2003) includes the Australian subspecies *S.a. placens* with the Asian *S. a. sinensis*. The remnants of what was probably this species were found on Norfolk Island on 15/11/1975.

Little Tern *Sternula albifrons placens* (Gould 1837). An Australian bird (ringed as a chick at Lakes Entrance, Gippsland, Victoria) was recorded in the Manukau Harbour on 23/10/1999 by Tony Habraken (Minton & Riegen 1999).