

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)
Greater sand plover: p 127.

Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii leschenaultii* Lesson 1826, Migrant
20/8/1943 Puketutu, Auckland
25/12/1996 Norfolk Island

P.C. Bull found the first bird, associating with Wrybills at Puketutu (Mangere) in August 1943. Sibson and Bull (1945) later saw it there on 5/9/1943. There had been over 130 records by 1993. In their original description, Sibson and Bull initially consider it the size of a Wrybill, but later say it was a little larger than a Banded Dotterel. By elimination they considered "Geoffroy's Sand-Plover" (the old name) to be the only candidate. This species closely resemble *C. mongolus*, and perhaps it has not been sufficiently eliminated in this description.