

CHAMBERS, S. 2009.

Birds of New Zealand - Locality Guide. 3rd edn.

Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.

White-faced storm petrel: pp 67-68.



### WHITE-FACED STORM PETREL

**Family** Hydrobatidae

**Species** *Pelagodroma marina*

**Common name** White-faced Storm Petrel

**Status** Endemic

**Abundance** Common

**Size** 200 mm (cf sparrow 145 mm, Fluttering Shearwater 300 mm)

**Breeding islands close to New Zealand** Islands from the Three Kings Islands to Stewart Island and the Chatham Islands. Also Auckland Island to the south of New Zealand.

**Breeding months** October to March. Northern birds nest up to one month earlier than southern ones. 1 white egg is laid in a burrow.

**Range worldwide** Migrates from New Zealand in a north-east direction into the Pacific towards central America.

**New Zealand range** Found right around the coast. One of the more common seabirds around the New Zealand coast although preferring deeper and rougher waters.

### **Description**

**Face** White with a grey bar through and under eye. **Upperparts** Greyish-brown. **Upperwings** Secondary feathers dark grey with black primaries. **Rump and tail** Pale grey rump with black tail. **Underparts** White. **Legs** Black with yellow webs to feet.

### **Conspicuous features**

- White face.
- Yellow webs of feet.
- Slightly forked tail.

### **Conspicuous characteristics**

- Walking on the water with feet touching the waves.
- Unperturbed by boats.
- Appears more plentiful in rough weather.

**Call** Cackle and twitter sounds near the breeding colonies.

### **Where to find – North Island**

**Bay of Islands** – Beyond Cape Brett.

**North Auckland** – Towards Little Barrier Island. Common here. P 289.

**Wellington** – Cook Strait from the ferry in rough weather.

### **Where to find – South Island and Stewart Island**

**Southern seas** – In deeper water. P. 367.