

CHAMBERS, S. 2009.

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

Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.

Huttons shearwater: pp 39-40.



### HUTTONS SHEARWATER

**Family** Procellariidae

**Species** *Puffinus huttoni*

**Common name** Huttons Shearwater

**Status** Endemic

**Abundance** Common in north-east waters of the South Island

**Size** 360 mm (cf sparrow 145 mm, Fluttering Shearwater 330 mm)

**Mainland breeding site** On the seaward Kaikoura Range in the northern part of the South Island of New Zealand, above 1200 metres above sea level.

**Breeding months** August to April. 1 white egg is laid in a burrow.

**Range worldwide** Around New Zealand and the southern half of Australia.

**New Zealand range** Around the North Island but in the breeding season from Otago Peninsula to Cook Strait.

#### Description

**Upperparts** Dark brown. **Underparts** White. **Bill** Dark grey. **Feet** Brownish marked with white.

#### Conspicuous features

- Look for the dirtier underwing as opposed to the clean white underwing of the Fluttering Shearwater.
- Look for the longer bill as compared with the Fluttering.

- Look for a darker coloured bird as compared with the Fluttering.

### **Where to find**

**South Island waters** – Cook Strait to Otago Peninsula.

**Marlborough** – Tory Channel and Cook Strait from the ferry. It is often difficult to separate here from Fluttering Shearwaters.

**North Canterbury** – Kaikoura This is the best place to see this bird. Try from the sea or from the road north or south of Kaikoura town. Regularly seen on the seabird excursions. P. 345.

**Canterbury** – Banks Peninsula Rafts often sit in the open bays of Banks Peninsula during summer.