

OSNZ National Wader Count
June 2010

Summary Compiled By Adrian Riegen
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Good coverage was achieved in June 2010 with the Far North harbours being the only key sites not counted this year.

As usual the Manukau Harbour had the highest number of waders with 35,459 followed by the Kaipara Harbour with 23,965, Firth of Thames 16,999, Farewell Spit 9,894, Tasman Bay 7,715 and Kawhia Harbour with 7,071 was the only other site holding over 7,000 waders.

The table below shows June 2010 totals along with the average of the June 2005-09 counts

Semi-palmated Plover

This species was added to the count list for the first time with one seen on the Manukau Harbour.

Key Species

Pied Oystercatcher – 79,039

The Manukau Harbour had 25,193 and the three main Auckland Harbours between them accounted for 47,851. A further 14,179 were counted in the Nelson region.

Variable Oystercatcher – 3,031

Nelson region had 758 with Bay of Plenty close behind on 725.

Pied Stilt – 19,001

The Kaipara Harbour led with 5,933 followed by the Firth of Thames with 5,111 and the Manukau Harbour 3,175.

New Zealand Dotterel – 651

Mangawhai Estuary had 121 and the Kaipara Harbour 113.

Banded Dotterel – 6,252

Manukau Harbour was top with 987 followed by the Kaipara Harbour with 878, Lake Ellesmere 874, Farewell Spit 770, and 653 at Kawhia Harbour.

Wrybill – 4,614

Quite a low count and below the last five year average. Almost 95% were in the Auckland area with 2,059 in the Manukau Harbour, 2,010 in the Firth of Thames, the Kaipara Harbour had 214, Tauranga Harbour 97 and Whangarei Harbour 85.

Turnstone - 281

Manukau Harbour had 109 and Farewell Spit 88.

Lesser Knot – 1,287

Only about half the five-year winter average. Manukau Harbour had 1,011, the Firth of Thames 92, Farewell Spit 74 and Maketu Estuary 70.

Bar-tailed Godwit – 12,562

Significantly more than the five-year average, the Manukau Harbour leading the way again with 2,527, Kaipara Harbour 2,207, Farewell Spit 2,170, Firth of Thames 912, Tauranga Harbour 855, Tasman Bay 819 and Kawhia Harbour 806.

June 2010 Count Summary

Species	Count 2010	Average 2005-09
Pied Oystercatcher	79,039	82,344
Variable Oystercatcher	3,031	2,022
Oystercatcher Hybrid	2	16
Pied Stilt	19,001	15,451
Black Stilt/Hybrids	27	22
New Zealand Dotterel	651	426
Banded Dotterel	6,252	5,670
Black-fronted Dotterel	2	89
Large Sand Dotterel	1	1
Mongolian Dotterel	1	
Wrybill	4,614	5,185
Pacific Golden Plover		4
Grey Plover	4	
Spur-winged Plover	2,003	1,404
Turnstone	281	252
Lesser Knot	1,287	2,659
Great Knot	1	
Sanderling		1
Curlew Sandpiper	7	2
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1	1
Pectoral Sandpiper	1	
Red-necked Stint	15	25
Broad-billed Sandpiper		
Eastern Curlew	2	1
Whimbrel	4	13
Bar-tailed Godwit	12,562	9,278
Black-tailed Godwit	1	1
Hudsonian Godwit		1
Wandering Tattler		
Siberian Tattler	2	1
Red-necked Phalarope		1

Semi-palmated Plover	1	
TOTAL	128,793	124,875

Sites with more than 2,000 waders counted

In June 2010

Manukau Harbour	35,459
Kaipara Harbour	23,965
Firth of Thames	16,999
Farewell Spit	9,894
Tasman Bay	7,715
Kawhia Harbour	7,071
Tauranga Harbour	4,521
Avon-Heathcote	2,788
Golden Bay	2,376
Lake Ellesmere	2,048