



TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND

COMMON COASTAL BIRDS - BREEDING SURVEY

**Spring-Summer
2016-2017**

Survey Report for 2016 -17 breeding season:

Year four of Survey

Bird counts were undertaken during 8 visits to the island from 29 September through to 22 December. All observations were made from the same land based viewing stations used in the previous season. Greater attention was given to the southern sites due to numbers of Red-billed gull and White-fronted tern. Visits to more northerly sites were restricted to the early and later parts of the breeding cycle of Black-backed gull. Estimation of their numbers relies on limited data.

- 1. RED BILLED GULL** Red-billed gulls numbered around 250 – 265 breeding pairs this year. Nesting birds were concentrated in 3 areas of inshore rock with others on coastal cliffs and outcrops, all in the southern third of Tiritiri's east coast. The largest grouping at Curl rock was the most difficult to assess due to crevices and ground-cover obscuring some nesting areas, plus the need to view from 2 locations. Numbers appeared to lie between 75 and 85 pairs here and an additional 25 pairs on the nearby cliff, where most nest were distinctly visible. Near 60 pairs nested in the area observed from the Bach Garden and round onto the rock flats below Seat Promontory, the most northerly point used this year. And another 60 pairs used the rock in the bay, and its adjacent cliff face, viewed from Far Seat looking north toward the Fog Horn shed. Twin-peak rock, east of Far Seat and the most southerly nesting area held between 35 and 40 pairs. Total numbers are less than last season (approx. 340 pr) but more than the previous two years (each approx. 100). The rock pinnacles just north of Emergency Landing were not used at all, unlike the previous 3 breeding seasons.
- 2. BLACK BACKED GULL** Nesting birds were present at 4 main sites as in previous years: North-east Bay track rocks held at least 8 pairs, North-west point had 5 or 6 pairs, Seat Promontory also had 8 pairs, and Pohutukawa promontory held at least 6 pairs. Other pairs bred singly at various points along the coast cliffs. The limited data supports a minimum number of 35 breeding pairs.
- 3. PIED SHAG** Pied shags continue to use the cliff-side trees above Emergency Landing as a roost and nest location. The presence of young at different stages of development suggests breeding takes place throughout most or all of the year. Between August and December, 7 nests were utilised and young birds raised in at least 6 of these.
- 4. LITTLE SHAG** Limited visits to the site off North-east Bay track suggest that a pair of Little shag again held territory here, and the presence of a young bird with the adult pair on 22nd December strongly indicate successful breeding in the immediate vicinity, as in previous years.
- 5. REEF HERON** There were no sightings of Reef heron during survey visits. In the 4 years of this survey only in the 2013-14 season has breeding been demonstrated with young being fed at the North-east Bay track site.

6. **WHITE FRONTED TERN** Nesting appears to have commenced in late November with numbers increasing though most of December. At most locations sitting birds were clearly visible on a shallow mat of dry grasses. Small numbers were sitting within pockets of vegetation especially at the rocks viewed from the Bach Garden, and some were hidden along the cliff face adjacent to Curl rock. Conservative assessments in these areas could mean more breeding pairs were present than the count of 106 indicates. Of the previous 3 breeding seasons only 2014-15 showed any breeding on Tiritiri and no more than 10 pairs. This year breeding pairs must number between 100 and 120 pairs.
7. **CASPIAN TERN** Although birds were seen on a few occasion there was no evidence of loyalty to any particular area and no sign of nesting.

COMMON COASTAL BIRDS - BREEDING SURVEY 2016-2017

Survey Purpose: The intention is to measure population fluctuations and trends among the common coastal species utilising Tiritiri Matangi. Annual counts commenced in the 2013-14 breeding season. Conclusions for the 2016-17 season are shown above and supporting data below.

Map: The island map in this report has been updated to show the location of the main rock areas used for nesting, as well as indicating regular viewing stations.

Field observation: Most sightings were made by scanning cliff faces and off-shore rocks from established observation stations using a 20x telescope and 8x binoculars. Unlike previous seasons, most counts only recorded 'sitting' birds. As the season advanced nesting material was very evident for many of the sitting birds. When chicks began to appear they were, as far as possible, counted with siblings and any accompanying adult as a single family unit and added to the number of birds that appeared to be still sitting and without chicks.

Evaluation of data: Field notes were entered into the tabular format recorded below. Estimating breeding numbers has relied upon averaging counts over 2 or 3 visits during the peak period of incubation and hatching, with some adjustment if other counts show significant variance.

Text Notes: Where 'sitters' are recorded with two numbers (EG: 4+4) the second number will refer to a family group. Abbreviations used to indicate this: 'ch fam' indicates a unit identified as a family comprising an adult with a chick or chicks, or a separated group of fledglings. 'ch' = chick. 'sep' = separate family. 'w' = with. In a few instances where a count has been made in sections on a single site, the section count and total are shown in the same column cell. Eg: 3 + 2 + 4 = 9

Species included:

Red billed gull. Black backed gull. White fronted Tern. Caspian Tern. Pied Shag. Little Shag. Reef Heron.

Viewing Stations:

1. Fog Horn Shed - eastern slope below shed - beside cliff top pohoutakwa
- North to **Curl Rock**, South to **Twin Peak**.
- 1A. Far Seat - north to **Bay rock**, south-east to **Twin Peak**.
2. Bach Garden - cliff top garden - north to coastal rocks sitting south-east of Seat promontory - **Bach Garden rocks**.
- 2A. East Coast track bend - high point of path to Seat Promontory
- south to **Curl Rock** and nearer **cliff edge rock**.
3. Seat Promontory - by two seats - north to rocks running NE of Emergency Landing (Fisherman's Point) – **Emergency Landing Pinnacles**.
- on cliff-top at NE extreme of grass - looking below to **Rock Flats**.
- 3:2 Arches Outcrop
- end of rocky promontory between The Arches and Fishermans Bay
- looking Southeast to **Emergency Landing Pinnacles** (north face only)
4. Emergency Landing - rocky shore looking up to trees on northern cliff face.
5. Pohutukawa Promontory - promontory running east of Pohutukawa Cove
- accessed from U bend on track – viewing from bottom of grass slope:
– looking below to East & NE at **Promontory Rocks** platform.
6. Pohutukawa Cove - on SE point by 'rock stack' - looking NW and East.
7. North East Bay Track - grass slope east of track at its halfway level between junction with east Coast track and the wetlands sign
– down slope behind flax looking NE to Five **Rock Cluster**
8. Little Hobbs Beach - access path at northern end
- looking to the **Reef** beyond the wharf.
9. North West Point – down zig-zag path from NW bend of Ridge Road track
- **Beach Rock & Chimney Stone**.



11 Nov											0	0	
18 Nov											12	5	
3 Dec	8	4	24	11	0	0	17	7	19	11	80+	33	
9 Dec												22+nest	
22 Dec	2	1	35	18	2	1	11	6	18	8	68	34	
		1		15		1		6		10		33	<i>Av. adjusted totals</i>

SUMMARY: Shared use of these rocks with White-fronted tern

VIEWING SITE : →	SEAT PROMONTORY - Site 3																
VIEWING DATE ↓	Main Cliff & Thumb rock		EL Pin 1		EL Pin 2		EL Pin 3		EL Pin 4		EL Pin 5		EL Pin 6		Whole site		Notes
	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	
29 Sept															0	0	
6 Nov															0	0	
11 Nov															0	0	
3 Dec															0	0	

SUMMARY: No birds observed making any use of the rock pinnacles and adjacent cliff.

	SEAT PROMONTORY - Site 3		
VIEWING DATE ↓	Promontory Flats (rocks below NE cliff face) <i>36.601554 x 174.898495</i>		
	Total number		Sitting
6 Nov	15		6+
18 Nov	60		22
	<i>A 7th pair seen mating. Nests all at NW end of flats.</i>		
	<i>Dry grass nests with sitting adult clear to see in rock niches.</i>		

3 Dec	80	27	Nests all at NW end of flats.
22 Dec	25	5	Presumed young birds already dispersed.
		25	Averaged, adjusted totals

SUMMARY: Most nests clearly visible – about 25 breeding pairs.

VIEWING SITE : →	ARCHES OUTCROP - Site 3:2
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VIEWING DATE ↓	EL Pin (seaward face W) – sequence as viewed inshore to offshore 36.599595 x 174.897698
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	Main Cliff & Thumb rock		Inshore rock		EL pin 1 masking 2		EL pin 4 behind 7		EL pin 3		EL pin 5 masking 6		Whole Site		Notes
	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitter	Total	Sitter	Total	Sitter	Total	Sitter	Total	Sitting	

SUMMARY: No birds using this area.

VIEWING SITE : →	LITTLE HOBBS BEACH - Site 8
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VIEWING DATE ↓	Wharf Bay Rocks	Notes
	Total number	Sitting

SUMMARY: Regular monitoring throughout the season indicated this area only used for resting. No breeding here.

OVERALL SUMMARY: Breeding Red-billed gulls number around 250 – 265 pairs this year. These are birds visible from land based observation points. Some additional pairs may be on seaward rock faces, but these numbers compare with land-based counts taken over the previous 3 years. Numbers are down on last year's high count but up on the previous two years when only around 100 pairs were recorded.

TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND		COMMON COASTAL BREEDING BIRDS		SURVEY 2016 -2017	
SPECIE :	BLACK BACKED GULL <i>Larus dominicanus</i>				
LOCATIONS OF BREEDING BIRDS					
VIEWING SITE : →	CHINAMANS BAY - <i>Site 1:2</i>				
	Bay Island		Southerly Face		<i>Notes</i>
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	
<i>SUMMARY: No nesting observed here.</i>					
VIEWING SITE : →	BACH GARDEN - <i>Site 2</i>				
VIEWING DATE ↓	Rocks East of Seat Prom (adjacent NE prom rocks)				
	<i>Total number</i>		<i>Sitting</i>		
11 Nov	1		1		<i>Single nest on Bay Rock</i>
18 Nov	1		?		
3 Dec	2		1		<i>Single nest on Bay Rock</i>
9 Dec	2		0		
22 Dec	2		1		<i>Adult bird with large downy chick on Bay rock. Plus 1 sitting on R2 section</i>
<i>SUMMARY: 1 pair reared young on Bay rock, as last year.</i>					

VIEWING SITE : →	SEAT PROMONTORY - Site 3			
VIEWING DATE ↓	Promontory Rocks (below NE cliff face)		Notes	
	Total number	Sitting		
2 Sept	12	?	3 birds sat throughout observation period	
29 Sept	22	1 (maybe 2)	2 fishermen on northern end of rocks	
22 Oct	2	0		
6 Nov	6+4+5 = 15	3+1+3 = 7	Counting rocks from right to left	
18 Nov	15	4+2+3 = 9	Counting rocks from right to left	
3 Dec	6+4+7 = 17	2&1ch+2+2&1ch = 8	Counting rocks from right to left	
9 Dec	3 + 3 + 5 = 11	2 + 1 + 1&2 sep ch = 6		
22 Dec	5 + 5 + 6 = 16	1&2ch+1&1ch+ 0&3ch=8	Ch=chick group (range1-3 per group)	
<i>SUMMARY: 8 pairs definitely bred, a 9th may have done so.</i>				
VIEWING SITE →	ARCHES OUTCROP - Site 3:2			
VIEWING DATE ↓	Main Cliff to NW		Main Cliff to East	
	Total number	Sitting	Total number	Sitting
<i>SUMMARY: No birds observed using this area.</i>				
VIEWING SITE : →	POHUTUKAWA PROMONTORY - Site 5			
VIEWING DATE	Rocky Point			

↓			
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	
29 Sept	2	0	
22 Oct	9	0	
6 Nov	12	4/5	
22 Dec	22	?	<i>6 standing on rock ledge reluctant to move. 16 flying, agitated, diving & crying.</i>

SUMMARY: No visits to this site were made during the peak period of mid-November to mid-December. Numbers present and response to disturbance suggests several pairs were breeding. Based on this limited evidence, and the use of this site in previous years it seems likely that at least 6 pairs bred. No attempt was made to climb down the ledges where it is assumed nests were located.

VIEWING SITE : →	POHUTUKAWA COVE - Site 6				
VIEWING DATE ↓	Lower Cliff Slope <i>N end of Pohutukawa Prom flats</i>		Cove West End Cliff		<i>Notes</i>
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	
29 Sept	0	0	4	1	
6 Nov	3	1/2	8	2/3	<i>5 birds on upper level, 3 lower. Also 2 on cliff below stack rock</i>
22 Dec	0	0	7	1w2ch	<i>6 birds on upper level – stood resting? Ad w chicks lower level.</i>

SUMMARY: At least one pair, probably two bred here.

VIEWING SITE : →	NORTH-EAST BAY TRACK - Site 7			
VIEWING DATE	Five Rock Cluster			

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	Rock 1 (far Right)		Rock 2		Rock 3		Rock 4 (twin peak)		Rock 5 (in-shore)		Cliff Base		= Whole site		Notes
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	
29 Sept	1	0	3	1	0	0	4	1	0	0					+4 flying at R4
22 Oct	6	1	5	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	2	1	17	3	
6 Nov	3	0	7	4	0	0	5	2	2	1	2	1	19	8	
22 Dec	4	1+ 1w2ch	3+ 15fly	0	1	0	6 suggest 2/3 fam	0	0	0	1	1	>30		Young dispersed or in cover?
		1		3		0		2		1		1		8	

SUMMARY: *Again very limited evidence, but suggesting about 8 pairs bred.*

VIEWING SITE : →	LITTLE HOBBS BEACH - Site 8													
VIEWING DATE ↓	Wharf Bay Reef							<i>Notes</i>						
	<i>Total number</i>			<i>Sitting</i>										

SUMMARY: *No breeding here*

VIEWING SITE : →	NORTH WEST POINT - Site 9													
VIEWING DATE ↓	Point Rock					Beach chimney-stone					<i>Notes</i>			
	<i>Total number</i>		<i>Sitting</i>			<i>Total number</i>		<i>Sitting</i>						
11 Nov	9		4			2		1			4 clearly on nests + 2 possible sitters on P. Rock			

SUMMARY: *Probably 5 pairs nested here.*

ADDITIONAL BLACK-BACK RECORDS

VIEWING DATE ↓	VIEWING SITE ↓	Observation	Deduction
22 Oct	NE Bay	2 noted on northern point	5
6 Nov	Cliff adjacent Twin-peak Rock	1 BB Gull sitting	2
6 Nov	NE Bay	3 on N point, 1 may be sitter + 1 sitter on Bay rock	5
6 Nov	Original 3.2 Site (tree seat)	2 present on rock to West, 1 sitting.	3
11 Nov	Coast from Hobbs to NW Point	1 pair on sea close to shore	<i>No mobbing along here suggests no breeding</i>
11 Nov	Grass point south of Wharf	1 BB Gull sitting	1
11 Nov	Cliff adjacent Twin-peak Rock	2 BB Gull present, 1 sitting	2
18 Nov	Twin-peak rock	1BB Gull	
18 Nov	Grass point south of Wharf	1 BB Gull on nest	1
3 Dec	Cliff towards Curl rock from Fog Horn	1 BB Gull on nest	4
3 Dec	Grass point south of Wharf	1 BB gull sitting	1
9 Dec	Pa point north of Hobbs	1 sitting BBG + mate nearby, 2 others diving low	<i>Suggest 2 pairs with nesting territory</i>
9 Dec	Grass point south of wharf	1 BB gull sitting	1
9 Dec	Cliff adjacent Twin-peak rock	1 BB gull with chick	2
22 Dec	Original 3.2 Site (tree seat)	1 BB Gull stood sentinel	3

SUMMARY: Likely that each of these 5 solitary pairs raised young - at Grass Point, cliff adjacent to Twin-peak rock, Tree seat, cliff towards Curl rock and NE Bay. Pa point may have supported an additional 2 pairs but without further corroboration these have not been included.

OVERALL SUMMARY: Assessing the numbers of Red-billed gull and White fronted tern consumed most of the time available during visits to Tiritiri Matangi. Because these species were concentrated in the southern half of the east coast, opportunities to check progress of Black-backed gull breeding at the more northerly sites was limited to a few dates early and late in their breeding cycle. Estimated numbers are therefore less reliable than is desirable and, possibly lower than actual. Around 40 pairs is probable but the limited data supports just 35 pairs.

TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND	COMMON COASTAL BREEDING BIRDS	SURVEY 2016 -2017
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SPECIE :	PIED SHAG <i>Phalacrocorax varius</i>
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LOCATIONS OF BREEDING BIRDS

VIEWING SITE : →	SEAT PROMONTORY - <i>Site 3</i>		
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Notes</i>
29 Sept	12	6	<i>6 nests appeared occupied and a possible 7th obscured from viewing point may also be in use</i>
6 Nov	19	7	<i>Birds present on 7 nests. Possibly 8 nests constructed.</i>

VIEWING SITE : →	EMERGENCY LANDING - <i>Site 4</i>		
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Notes</i>
2 Sept	14	5 +	<i>5 nests clearly visible and occupied, a 6th nest possible in close proximity to another</i>
22 Oct	18	7	<i>7 occupied nests. 12 birds in tree and 6 on nearby rocks</i>

SUMMARY: *Pied shags continue to use this site as a roost and nest location. The presence of young at different stages of development suggests breeding takes place throughout most or all of the year. Between August and December, 7 nests were utilised and young birds raised in at least 6 of these.*

OTHER SIGHTINGS

DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVATION
22 Oct	Wharf Reef	6 birds resting on shingle
	NE Bay	3 birds resting on beach
11 Nov	Wharf Reef	6 birds present on southern reef
18 Nov	Twin-peak rock	1 bird present
18 Nov	Bay below Garden bach	1 bird present
22 Dec	Dead tree at southern point NE Bay	1 bird perched at top

TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND		COMMON COASTAL BREEDING BIRDS		SURVEY 2016 -2017	
SPECIE :	LITTLE SHAG Phalacrocorax melanoleucos				
LOCATIONS OF BREEDING BIRDS					
VIEWING SITE :	NORTH-EAST BAY TRACK - Site 7				
	Five Rock Cluster				
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Observation</i>		
29 Sept	2		2 adults flying between rock perches, meeting up at Rock 4 where one dropped on seaward side of tree		
6 Nov	1		1 bird perched in pohutokawa on Rock 2.		
22 Dec	3		Adult perched in tree Rock 2. Imm perched in tree Rock on 4, later joined by second adult bird.		
VIEWING SITE →	EMERGENCY LANDING - Site 4				
VIEWING DATE ↓	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Observation</i>		
SUMMARY: In spite of the limited number of visits, the presence of a free flying young bird with an adult on 22 December indicates successful breeding by resident pair.					

TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND		COMMON COASTAL BREEDING BIRDS		SURVEY 2016 -2017	
SPECIE :		REEF HERON Egretta sacra			
LOCATIONS OF BREEDING BIRDS					
VIEWING SITE : →		NORTH-EAST BAY TRACK - Site 7			
		Five Rock Cluster – Rock 2			
		<i>Observation</i>			
SUMMARY: <i>No-sightings of this specie during survey visits.</i>					

WHITE-FRONTED TERN NEXT

TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND		COMMON COASTAL BREEDING BIRDS				SURVEY 2016 -2017	
SPECIE :	WHITE FRONTED TERN <i>Sterna striata</i>						
LOCATIONS OF BREEDING BIRDS							
VIEWING SITE : →	FOG HORN SHED - <i>Site 1</i>						
VIEWING DATE ↓	Curl Rock (to N)		Cliff Base opposite Rock		Twin Peak Rock (to SE)		<i>Notes</i>
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	
3 Dec			16	4 +	18	11	<i>More birds hidden along Cliff base</i>
9 Dec			22	8 +		18	<i>2 nests on Twin-peak with chick</i>
22 Dec						14	<i>Counted from Far Seat</i>
				8		16	<i>Estimated total of nesting pairs</i>
FAR SEAT VIEW TO FOG HORN BAY - <i>Site 1:1</i>							
VIEWING SITE : →							
VIEWING DATE ↓	North East Rock			Cliff Face		<i>Notes</i>	
	<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>		<i>Total number</i>	<i>Sitting</i>		
3 Dec	0	0		2	1		
9 Dec				3	2		
22 Dec					2		
					2	<i>Estimated total of nesting pairs</i>	
SEAT PROMONTORY - <i>Site 3</i>							
VIEWING SITE : →							

VIEWING DATE ↓	EL Pin 1		EL Pin 2		EL Pin 3		EL Pin 4		EL Pin 5		EL Cliff Base		Remote Rock		Notes
	Total number	Sitting	Total number	Sitting	Total number	Sitting	Total number	Sitting	Total number	Sitting	Total number	Sitting	Total number	Sitting	
24 Sept												3	0		
28 Nov												0	0		

VIEWING SITE → SEAT PROMONTORY - Site 3

VIEWING DATE ↓	Promontory Rocks (below NE cliff face)		Notes
	Total number	Sitting	
6 Nov	2	0	2 birds resting at NW end of flat rocks
18 Nov	8	?	2 birds resting at NW end, and 6 flying south across bay
3 Dec	3 + 8	2 + 4	The 3 at NW end, the 8 on right end of nearest of flat rocks viewed from east end of prom
9 Dec	21	9	
22 Dec	5 + 20	3 + 15	Lower number at NW end, higher now spread a little further onto eastern top of narrow rock
		18	Estimated total of nesting pairs

VIEWING SITE → ARCHES OUTCROP - Site 3:2

VIEWING DATE ↓	EL Pin (seaward face W)																Notes
	Main Cliff & Thumb rock		EL Pin 1 (Inshore rock)		EL pin 2		EL pin 3		EL pin 4		EL pin 5		EL pin 6		Whole Site		
	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	Total	Sitting	

VIEWING SITE → EMERGENCY LANDING - Site 4

		Promontory Rocks (below NE cliff face)											
VIEWING DATE ↓	<i>Total number</i>		<i>Sitting</i>										
VIEWING SITE : →	BACH GARDEN - Site 2												
VIEWING DATE ↓	North Rock 1		North Rock 2		North Rock 3		North Rock 4		North Rock 5		Whole Site		Notes
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Sitting</i>	
18 Nov											183		1-5 left to right
3 Dec	2	0	45	21	42	18	4	0	24	12	117+133	51	133 on wet rocks
9 Dec	1	0	42	24	40	21	4	2	18	9	105	56	
22 Dec	3	1	24	22	33	24+	3	2	20+	11	83	60	
		1		24		24		2		11		62	Estimated totals
VIEWING SITE : →	LITTLE HOBBS BEACH - Site 8												
VIEWING DATE ↓	Wharf Bay Reef												
	<i>Total number</i>		<i>Sitting</i>		<i>Notes</i>								
2 Sept	30 +				Resting between fishing flights								
29 Sept	140 +				Most using Whangapaoroa side of rocks – resting								
6 Nov	7				Birds alighting between fishing forays.								
SUMMARY: Nesting appears to have commenced in late November with numbers increasing though most of December. At most locations sitting birds were clearly visible on a shallow mat of dry grasses. Small numbers were sitting within pockets of vegetation especially at the rocks viewed from the Bach Garden, and some were hidden along the cliff face adjacent to Curl rock. Conservative assessments in these areas could mean more breeding pairs were present than the count of 106 indicates. Breeding population probably between 100 and 120 pairs.													

OTHER SIGHTINGS			
DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVATION	
22 Oct	Shag Rock	150 + birds resting on distant rock	

TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND		COMMON COASTAL BREEDING BIRDS		SURVEY 2016 -2017	
SPECIE :		CASPIAN TERN <i>Sterna Caspia</i>			
LOCATIONS OF BREEDING BIRDS					
VIEWING SITE : →		LITTLE HOBBS BEACH - <i>Site 8</i>			
	Total number	Sitting	Notes		
29 Sept	2		2 adults resting on grass plateau @ 11.00am One on shingle at 3.30pm		
22 Oct	2		1 bird sitting on grass plateau		
18 Nov	2		2 Birds flying over Bach Garden bay towards Hobbs beach		

TIRITIRI MATANGI ISLAND

COMMON COASTAL BREEDING BIRDS

SURVEY 2016 -2017

MISCELLANEOOUS RECORDS

SPECIES	LOCATION	DATE	OBSERVATION
OYSTERCATCHER	Wharf Reef	22 Oct	2 birds on reef shingle + 2 on coastal edge
OYSTERCATCHER	Hobbs Beach	22 Oct	2 with 1 sitting outside taped area
OYSTERCATCHER	Seat Prom. Flat rocks – SE end	6 Nov	2 birds present
OYSTERCATCHER	South of Wharf	6 Nov	2 birds present at corner point
OYSTERCATCHER	Wharf Reef	11 Nov	2 birds present
OYSTERCATCHER	Hobbs Beach	11 Nov	2 birds, 1 sitting within taped off area
OYSTERCATCHER	North of Hobbs	11 Nov	2 birds on rocks
OYSTERCATCHER	North West Point	11 Nov	2 birds present
SPOTTED SHAG	Wharf Reef	11 Nov	Sighting of possible single bird flying south
OYSTERCATCHER	Seat Prom. Flat rocks – SE end	3 Dec	Single bird sitting
OYSTERCATCHER	Seat Prom. Flat rocks – SE end	9 Dec	Single bird sitting moving to show 2+ eggs
OYSTERCATCHER	Hobbs beach	9 Dec	1 pr with 2 young & 1 pr distraction behaviour & agitated
OYSTERCATCHER	South of wharf	9 Dec	1 pair at point agitated and distracting

SUMMARY: A tentative record of breeding pairs indicates at least 6 pairs in the areas watched. The island possibly supports 10 or more breeding pairs?