



Motuhara Seabird Research: December 2022 field trip

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Permissions

- Motuhara is Maori Freehold Land, and this work has been carried out in partnership with the island owners



Field trip

- Team of two
- December 8th to 17th 2022
- Island in good condition, continuing trend of deep soil and well vegetated



Field trip

- Warm, wet, calm and foggy weather



Royal Albatross

- 108 banded birds re-sighted
- 6 additional breeders banded
- Total of 627 individually colour banded birds (since Jan 2021), representing two different annual cohorts.
- Focus on re-sighting now.



Static camera deployment

- Serviced cameras and recovered cards.
- Several camera failures, re-set those still functional
- More details from Peter to come.



Mortality event

- Concern over >15 incubating birds becoming ill and dying.
- Worked with Local and National DOC Office and MPI to collect recently deceased birds and samples from birds showing early symptoms to get tested.
- Clear for Avian influenza (Phew!) and likely cause long tick exposure increasing toxicity



Buller's Mollymawk

- 308 banded birds re-sighted
- 27 additional birds banded (partners of banded birds on numbered study nests)
- Total of 450 individually banded birds (since Jan 2021), focus on re-sighting



GLS recovery

- 55 GLS devices deployed Jan 2021
- 49 recovered Jan 2022, and redeployed on same birds
- 40 recovered off birds this trip, and 3 in day trip in Jan 2023
- Johannes will be providing details on analysis



Cape Pigeon

- 15 GLS deployed
- 7 pairs, plus additional bird from another nest



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