

## Ecologically Significant Marine Area Assessment Sheet for Wading and Aquatic Birds

Name/Area: Bream Tail to Waipu Cove

### Summary:

This area includes coastal cliffs, rocky islets/outcrops, sandy beaches and stream mouths around Bream Tail, including Andersons and McKenzie Coves / Langs Beach, to the southern end of Waipu Cove. Langs Beach has several breeding pairs of northern NZ dotterel and variable oystercatcher. Also present on the sandy beaches are red-billed gull, Caspian tern, black-backed gull and shags within the surrounding areas.

White-fronted tern, grey-faced petrel and red-billed gull in past years have bred on Sentinel Rock and white-fronted tern have bred on rocky islets/outcrops around Bream Tail. Grey-faced petrel and little blue penguin have been found ashore in burrows presumably breeding at Bream Tail.

### Threatened and At Risk bird species - Bream Tail to Waipu Cove

<i>Species Common Name</i>	<i>Scientific Name - updated 2013</i>	<i>NZ threat classification</i>		<i>Site status / significance NB. Specific to site</i>
Pied shag	<i>Phalacrocorax varius</i>	Threatened	Nationally vulnerable	Uncommon resident, breeding
Reef heron	<i>Egretta sacra sacra</i>	Threatened	Nationally vulnerable	Rare resident
Banded dotterel	<i>Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus</i>	Threatened	Nationally vulnerable	Rare NZ migrant
Northern NZ dotterel	<i>Charadrius obscurus aquilonius</i>	Threatened	Nationally vulnerable	Relatively common resident, breeds
Lesser knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Threatened	Nationally vulnerable	Rare migrant
Red-billed gull	<i>Larus novaehollandiae scopulinus</i>	Threatened	Nationally vulnerable	Relatively common resident, may breed on islets
Caspian tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Threatened	Nationally vulnerable	Uncommon resident
Little blue penguin	<i>Eudyptula minor</i>	At Risk	Declining	Resident, possibly breeding
Banded rail	<i>Gallirallus philippensis</i>	At Risk	Declining	Rare resident
NZ pied oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus finschi</i>	At Risk	Declining	Rare NZ migrant
Eastern bar-tailed godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica baueri</i>	At Risk	Declining	Rare migrant
White-fronted tern	<i>Sterna striata</i>	At Risk	Declining	Common resident; may breed on islets
Variable oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus unicolor</i>	At Risk	Recovering	Relatively common resident, breeds
Black shag	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo novaehollandiae</i>	At Risk	Naturally uncommon	Uncommon resident
Little black shag	<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	At Risk	Naturally uncommon	Uncommon resident
Little shag	<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos brevirostris</i>	At Risk	Naturally uncommon	Uncommon resident
Grey-faced petrel	<i>Pterodroma macroptera gouldi</i>	Not threatened	Regionally significant/mainland population	Uncommon resident, may breed on islets/headlands

## Assessment of Ecological Significance for birds – Coast outside Harbours and Estuaries

Bream Tail to Waipu Cove Bird Values: Assessment of Ecological Significance			Bream Tail to Waipu Cove	Bream Bay	Bream Head to Taiharuru Head	Taiharuru Head to Cape Brett	Cape Wiwiki to Berghan Point	Cavalli, Stephenson and other Islands	Doubtless Bay, Rangaunu Bay, Great Exhibition Bay	Ohau Point to Scott Point	Scott Point to Maunganui Bluff	Aranga Beach to Pouto Peninsula
<b>Overall Ranking</b>			<b>Notes</b>									
<b>Representation</b>	supports most taxa expected for habitat type		M	M-H	H	M-H	H	H	H	H	M	M
	large example of its type	1.	M-H	M-H	M	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
<b>Rarity and Distinctiveness</b>	supports indigenous species threatened, at risk, or uncommon, nationally or within the relevant ecological scale		H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
	supports species endemic to the Northland-Auckland region or at distributional limits within the Northland region		M	M	M	H	H	H	H	H	H	M
	distinctive of a naturally restricted occurrence		L	L	L	L	L	L-M	L	L	L	L
<b>Diversity and Pattern</b>	high diversity of indigenous ecosystem or habitat types		M	L	M	M	M-H	M	M	M-H	M	L
	high diversity of indigenous taxa		L-M	L-M	M	M-H	M-H	M-H	M	M-H	L-M	L-M
	its composition reflects the existence of diverse natural features or ecological gradients		M	L	M	M	M-H	M-H	M	M-H	M	L
	contains intact ecological sequences		M	M	M	M	M	M-H	M	M	M	M
<b>Ecological Context</b>	provides or contributes to ecological linkages, networks, buffering functions	?N/A	L-M	L	M	M	M	M	M	M-H	L-M	L-M
	supports the natural functioning of freshwater or coastal ecosystems	2. ?N/A										
	supports life stages of indigenous fauna		M-H	M-H	M-H	M-H	H	H	H	H	M-H	M-H

1. Arbitrary as partly based on size of area selected for assessment
2. All could be ranked high as the areas were considered as coastal zones with connections to adjoining estuarine or freshwater wetlands.

## Coastal and offshore birds information notes and references

Site	Assessor	Date	Key references (see below)	Data reliability
Bream Tail to Waipu Cove	KH	Oct 2015	10, 14, 19	High
Bream Bay – except Waipu and Ruakaka estuaries	KH	Oct 2015	14	High
Bream Head to Taiharuru Head	KH	Oct 2015	9, 19	High
Taiharuru Head to Cape Brett, excluding estuaries (Taiharuru, Pataua, Horahora, Ngunguru, Matapouri, Whananaki, Whangaruru)	KH	Oct 2015	1	High
Cape Wiwiki to Berghan Point, excluding Whangaroa Harbour and Cavalli and Stephenson Islands	KH	Oct 2015	7, 22	High
Cavalli Island and Stephenson Islands	KH		7	High
Doubtless Bay, Rangaunu Bay, Great Exhibition Bay, excluding Rangaunu, Houhora and Parengarenga Harbours	KH	Oct 2015	4, 5	High
Ohau Point to Scott Point	KH	Oct 2015	2, 13	Moderately High
Scott Point to Maunganui Bluff	KH	Oct 2015	8, 13, 16	Moderately High
Aranga Beach to Pouto Peninsula	KH	Oct 2015	8, 21	High

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