



NEW ZEALAND BIRD ATLAS

STARTING 1ST JUNE 2019
FOR 5 YEARS

Following on from our introduction to the New Zealand Bird Atlas scheme at the South Kaipara Landcare AGM in June, Birds New Zealand is happy to provide a workshop for the residents of South Head.

The aim of the atlas is to update the distribution of New Zealand birds, and to compare the distribution and abundance against earlier atlases. This will provide an insight into how our birdlife has fared over the last 2 decades.

Data for the atlas is gathered by volunteers. Volunteers count **ALL** birds in a specific place for a known amount of time. What is important is that the record is a **complete** count. By complete, we mean all species sighted, are counted and recorded. This will help scientists to see what is present, and importantly what is not present. Anyone can be a volunteer. There is no requirement to be a Birds New Zealand member.

The difficulty for many people is the struggle to identify birds. For example, shags have many sub-species, and it is important to be able to identify them correctly. We propose to run a workshop that will cover:

- The essentials of bird counting;
- The tools of bird watching – binoculars, and field guides
- Bird identification tips for beginners

The workshop will be a presentation. We hope to have a field work practical so people may gain some knowledge and confidence in using the E-bird app. The workshop details are:

Date: 14th September 2019

Place: South Head Hall

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00am

Bring: Mobile phone to practice the E-bird app, or pen and paper if you wish to manually record your count. A pair of binoculars may be useful.

Refreshments will be provided.

ALL WELCOME

Queries can be made to Denise Poyner on 09 420-9885.