

have young but before commencement of seabird breeding.

From the study the helicopter appeared to cause no lasting impact on the non-breeding small birds of the island.

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SATELLITE TRACKING OF A WANDERING ALBATROSS FROM THE ANTIPODES ISLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, TO SOUTH AMERICA

A radio-satellite transmitter (PTT) has been placed on an adult male Wandering Albatross *Diomedea exulans antipodensis* which had just finished successful breeding and raising a chick. The bird left the Antipodes Islands region (49°40'S, 178°45'E) on 27 January 1996 (UTC) and arrived in waters to the west of Chile on 13 February 1996. The flight, which was of c. 8 000 km, took 17 days. The bird flew directly west to east across the southern Pacific Ocean (Fig. 1). During a 2.8 day period between 10–13 February it flew c. 2 900 km.

The details of this first tracked flight of a Wandering Albatross across the Pacific Ocean will be reported elsewhere.

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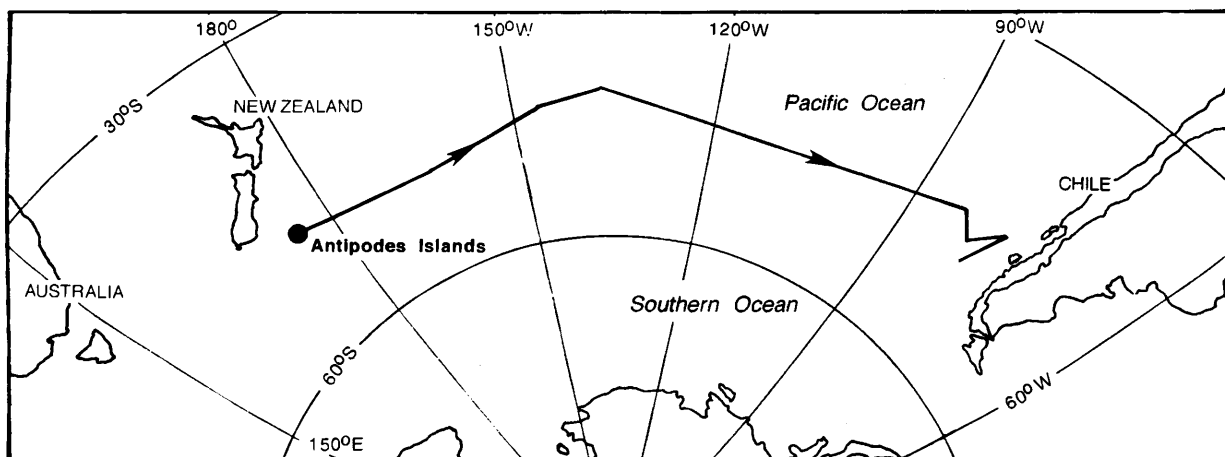


Figure 1. Flight of a Wandering Albatross across the Pacific Ocean from the Antipodes Islands. The flight path is schematic from data received at 2.8 day intervals.