

SEABIRD ISLANDS

No. 16

Green Islet, New South Wales

Location: 30°55' S., 153°05' E.; 50 m offshore, 1.5 km north of Smoky Cape, N.S.W.

Status: Crown land.

Description: 2.3 ha; 150 m diameter; roughly circular with an exposed rock platform at the eastern end; the remaining sides rise very steeply to a southward-sloping plateau, maximum height 40 m, where the shallow, friable soil supports a low vegetation dominated by the following:

Lomandra longifolia, *Dianella caerulea*, *Zoisia macrantha*, *Monerma cylindrica* and *Carpobrotus glaucescens*; other plants include *Lantana camara*, *Commelina cyanea*, *Ipomoea cairica*, *Scirpus nodosus*, *Rhagodia hastata*, *Enchylaena tomentosa*, *Parsonia starminea*, *Myoporum insulare* and *Gymnema (Marsdenia) rostrata*.

The soil parent material is a metamorphosed greywacke, siltstone and conglomerate series.

Landing: In a slight sea, only moderately difficult, onto rocks at the south-western or north-western sides.

Ornithological History: The only known ornithological visit was on 18 December 1974 by P. E. Roberts and G. Holmes from 12:30 to 14:00. Wedge-tailed Shearwaters were found breeding; no Little Penguins *Eudyptula minor* were located, despite their breeding in numbers on Delicate Nobby only 40 km to the south (S. G. Lane, pers. comm.).

Breeding Seabirds and Status

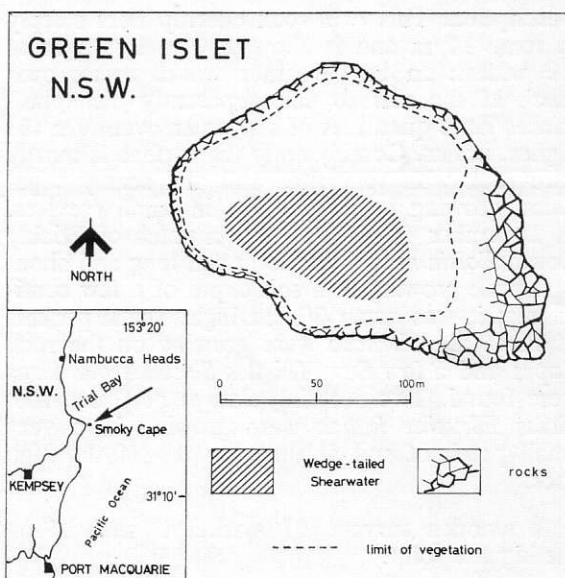
Puffinus pacificus Wedge-tailed Shearwater—Breeds mainly on the southern slope, mostly in shallow depressions hidden beneath *Lomandra* and *Dianella*. Of the 44 eggs found, 21 were being brooded, 4 appeared deserted and 19 were lying damaged on the surface. There were many short, empty burrows indicating a much greater population, perhaps largely of immature birds. Probably present to breed from August to May. Estimated 60-80 breeding pairs.

Factors Affecting Status

Probably rarely visited due to the difficulty of access from the adjacent rugged coastline. Crows *Corvus orru* were present and obviously take many eggs. Those eggs on the surface had been broken and eaten, and four had been carried to a rock outcrop.



● Green Islet from Smoky Cape (looking north).



Other Seabirds Recorded

Egretta sacra Reef Heron
Sterna bergii Crested Tern

Banding

Nil.

Acknowledgements

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