

SEABIRD ISLANDS

No. 30

Delicate Nobby, New South Wales

Location: 31°16' S., 152°58' E.; 8 km S. of Crescent Head, N.S.W.

Status: Crown land.

Other Name: Green Islet.

Description: 250 m long by 100 m wide. From a rocky, rather steep but not precipitous shore line, the island rises to 30 m near the eastern end. It is an isolated headland separated from the mainland by a series of deep, narrow channels and rocky outcrops. A fairly shallow, heavy loam soil cap covers the island from a few metres above the high water mark. There are no trees or shrubs but there is a good cover of grass, tussock and pigface *Carpobrotus glaucescens*.

Landing: Onto rocks; the exact location will depend on existing weather conditions.

Ornithological History: There appears to be no previous ornithological record for this island, which was visited for 1.5 hours by Messrs H. Battam, B. Jones and S. G. Lane early on 30 November 1969. Taking turns, two of the party worked on the island while the third manned the launch, which could not be landed or even safely anchored in the conditions.

Breeding Seabirds and Status

Eudyptula minor Little Penguin—Probably breeds in reasonable numbers. A spot check during the visit on 30 November 1969 of the lower, likely burrows revealed two adults in one burrow, one in another and two burrows each containing a nestling. Estimated breeding pairs not known.

Puffinus pacificus Wedge-tailed Shearwater—Burrows were distributed over most of the island. Estimated not less than 500 breeding pairs.

Factors Affecting Status

The proximity to the land and beach would mean that spearfishermen and board riders could easily land on the island in good conditions. There was no evidence of interference and no sign of any other predation during the 1969 visit.

OTHER VERTEBRATES

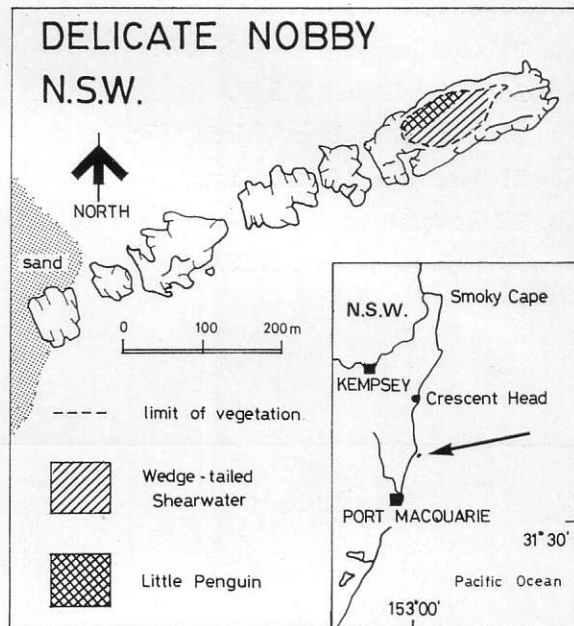
None recorded.

Other Seabirds Recorded

None recorded. No doubt this is due only to lack of observations. Cormorants have been seen



● Delicate Nobby (looking south-east from the beach).



perching on the adjacent rocky outcrops and would certainly use the island at times.

Banding

P. pacificus—49 adults, mostly on their single egg.

Bibliography

None.

Date Compiled:
31 December 1972

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