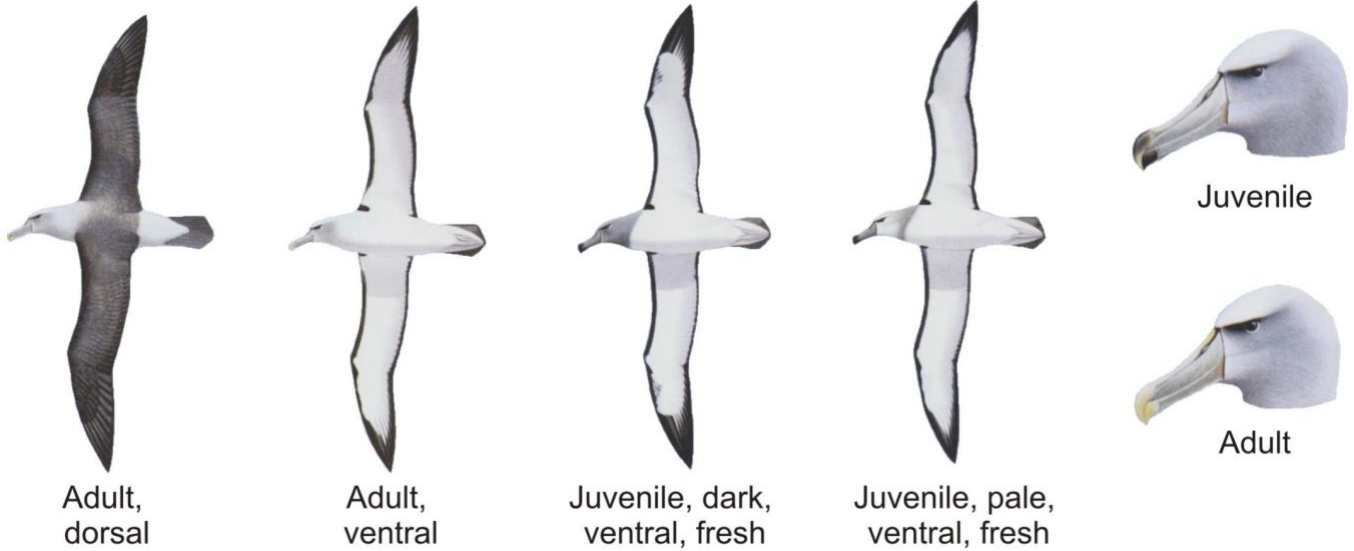


New Zealand White-capped Albatross *Thalassarche steadi* Species Code.: 910 Band: O



Status:

Elevated in 2003 from subspecies of the Shy Albatross *T. cauta steadi*. Breeds only on Auckland Is., NZ.

Morphometrics:

	Males	Females
Wing:	595 – 622 mm	569 – 595 mm
Tail:	227 – 242 mm	213 – 238 mm
Bill (tip to skull):	136 – 141 mm	126 – 139 mm
Tarsus:	91 – 104 mm	92 – 101 mm
Middle Toe:	137 – 147 mm	134 – 139 mm
Weight:	3.300 – 5.300 kg	2.600 – 4.400 kg

Ageing:

Juveniles occur in both dark and pale morphs as shown in the illustrations above; Juveniles of both morphs have a darker head and bill tip than adults, see illustrations; Immature plumages show a gradual whitening of the cap, hindneck and foreneck through successive moults; Full adult plumage is attained in either the fourth or fifth year at sea; Age at first breeding unknown.

Sexing:

Methods used for sexing in the field are not documented, but measurements above suggest that males may be larger than females; Incubation by both sexes in alternate shifts.

Similar species:

Shy Albatross *T. cauta* is virtually identical in plumage, but is slightly smaller (see separate field data sheet);

Salvin's Albatross *T. salvini* has a darker grey head (see separate field data sheet);

Chatham Albatross *T. eremita* has a dark blue-grey head (see separate field data sheet).