

The difference in the distribution of recoveries between those birds from Kidnappers Plateau and those from Horuhoru is similar to the dispersal pattern shown by the recoveries of birds less than one year old. Recoveries of Kidnappers Plateau birds are scattered along the coast of both North and South Islands. The majority of recoveries of Horuhoru birds (22 out of 26 recoveries of birds over one year old) come from the Hauraki Gulf or the northern part of the North Island and only five recoveries were made more than 200km from Horuhoru, including a 3-4 year old bird (No. 19,103) at Torere Beach, east of Opotiki, Bay of Plenty; two 2-3 year old birds (Nos. 20,062 and 0-225) at Tasman Bay, near Nelson, and north of the Rangitikei river mouth respectively; and a bird over five years old (No. 35,861) in the vicinity of Cape Kidnappers. This last recovery, made on 16 February 1962, is of particular interest as it could have been a Horuhoru bird which had settled at Cape Kidnappers. However, it was collected away from the Kidnappers gannetry and there is no evidence that it had settled there; with the earlier nesting season at Horuhoru it could just have completed breeding there and started on the winter dispersal.

Most Horuhoru birds more than a year old seem to remain during the autumn and early winter in the Hauraki Gulf area, and only a few wander further south than the Bay of Plenty or the west coast north of Auckland.

There are only two New Zealand recoveries of birds over one year old banded at Bush Island (Table II): one from Tutukaka ($35^{\circ} 36' S$, $174^{\circ} 32' E$) and another from Mangawhai Heads ($36^{\circ} 05' S$, $174^{\circ} 36' E$); both on the east coast, north of Auckland.

TABLE VI.—First Sightings of Gannets Banded at Kidnappers Plateau between 1951 and 1965.

Cohort	No. Banded	Number of Gannets first seen								Total No. Seen
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 years old	
1951	142	1	3	9	8	5	8	3	1	38
1952	106	—	1	—	7	8	3	2	—	21
1953	144	—	2	1	15	11	5	1	1	36
1954	142	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	4
1955	116	—	1	4	11	1	3	—	—	20
1956	80	—	—	7	3	8	—	2	—	20
1957	126	—	1	3	16	4	3	2	—	29
1958	108	—	1	15	9	6	3	—	—	34
1959	214	—	9	8	20	10	—	—	—	47
1960	281	1	4	7	11	—	—	—	—	23
1961	134	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
1962	249	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	1,842	4	23	57	101	54	25	10	2	276

(h) *Return of Banded Gannets to the Gannetry and the Breeding Age*

That gannets usually return to breed at the gannetry where they were born is already known (Wodzicki and Stein, 1958: 308). Considerable effort has been directed every year to the recapture of banded gannets at Kidnappers Plateau. At the same time the two adjacent colonies of Cape Kidnappers and Black Reef have been regularly searched for banded birds that might have settled there.

Table VI shows the age distribution at first sighting of banded gannets returning to Kidnappers Plateau. The age shown has been taken as the whole number of seasons between hatching and the first sighting at the gannetry.

The effort devoted to the identification of banded gannets was not the same every year and not all the banded gannets at the colony were identified. The first