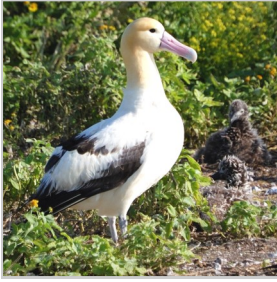


## SOME INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT ALBERTOSSES



Short-tailed Albatross  
*Phoebastria albatrus*  
Photo: "Jlfutari"

The use of satellite tracking is teaching scientists a great deal about the way albatrosses forage across the ocean in order to find food. They undertake no annual migration, but disperse widely after breeding, in the case of southern hemisphere species, often undertaking circumpolar trips. There is also evidence that there is separation of the ranges of different species at sea. A comparison of the foraging niches of two related species that breed on Campbell Island, the Campbell Albatross, *Thalassarche impavida*, and the Grey-headed Albatross, *Thalassarche chrysostoma*, showed the Campbell Albatross primarily fed over the Campbell Plateau whereas the Grey-Headed Albatross fed in more pelagic, oceanic waters. Wandering Albatrosses, *Diomedea exulans*, also react strongly to bathymetry, feeding only in waters deeper than 1000m (3281 feet); so rigidly did

the satellite plots match this contour that one scientist remarked, "It almost appears as if the birds notice and obey a 'No Entry' sign where the water shallows to less than 1000 m". There is also evidence of different ranges for the two sexes of the same species; a study of Tristan Albatrosses, *Diomedea dabbenena*, breeding on Gough Island showed that males foraged to the west of Gough and females to the east .

Source: Wikipedia