Grey petrel Kuia

Procellaria cinerea





Conservation status

Regional | Migrant National | At Risk: Relict



Main threats

Fisheries competition and bycatch, climate change, pollution



Length: 48 cm



Weight: 1 kg









Migratory range



Breeds on the subantarctic Moutere Mahue / Antipodes Islands and Motu Ihupuku / Campbell Islands, and in the South Atlantic and Indian Oceans. Migrates to South American waters during summer. Uncommon visitor to deep waters off mainland Aotearoa New Zealand.



Key Otago sites:

- Otago canyons, particularly in winter
- Rarely seen inshore

New Zealand native

A large, bulky petrel with a short tail. Scaly grey plumage on upper surfaces, becoming darker on the face, wings and tail. Underwings are dark, belly is pale and bill is dull yellow. Colonial breeder, nesting in burrows up to three metres deep on steep, well-vegetated slopes. Calls are a quavering drone and a low moaning.