

Fluttering shearwater | pakahā

Puffinus gavia



Conservation status

Regional | Migrant
National | At Risk: Relict



Main threats

Fisheries competition and bycatch, climate change, pollution

A bit about me...



Length:
32–37 cm



Weight:
365 g



 Migratory range

Range:

Breeds on islands off northern Aotearoa New Zealand and Te Taihū-o-te-Waka / Marlborough Sounds. Common in Aotearoa New Zealand waters. Some migrate to Australia after breeding season.

Key Otago sites:



- Otago coast, particularly in summer
- Commonly seen inshore

New Zealand endemic

A small seabird with dusky brown upperparts and white underparts. Dark bill is long and slender. Underwings generally white with brown flight feathers and armpits. White 'saddlebags' extend up between the wing and tail. Distinctive 'flutter-glide' flight pattern. Enormous flocks congregate on the water's surface near colonies during the late-summer moult.

Similar birds:



Buller's shearwater /
rako



Hutton's shearwater /
kaikōura tūi