

Otago shag Matapo

Leucocarbo chalconotus



Conservation status

Regional | Threatened: Vulnerable
National | At Risk: Increasing



Main threats

Fisheries bycatch,
disturbance,
climate change

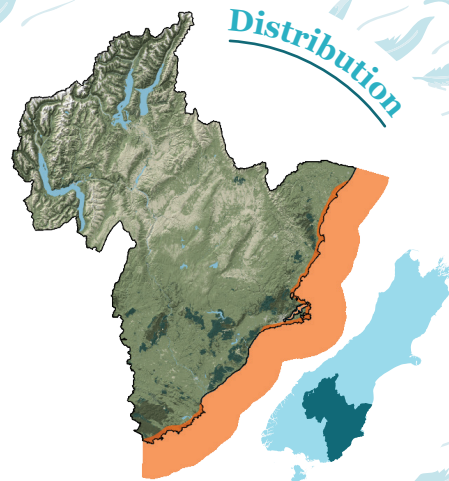
A bit about me...



Length:
68 cm



Weight:
2.5 kg



Distribution



Range

Range:

Headlands and rock stacks
along the Otago coast, from
Oamaru in the north to
Te Ākau Tai Toka / The Catlins
in the south. Forages in
harbours and the open ocean.

Key Otago sites:

- Oamaru Harbour
- Matakaea / Shag Point
- Pukekura / Taiaroa Head
- Te Awa Ōtākou / Otago Harbour
- Tokatā / Nugget Point



Otago endemic

A large, pink-footed marine shag with a dark 'bronze' morph, and a black and white 'pied' morph. When breeding it gains a large crest, bright facial colours and a green sheen to its plumage. Seldom heard calling. Previously known as Stewart Island shags prior to researchers splitting them into two species in 2016, the other one being the Foveaux shag / mapo.

Similar birds:



Pied shag / kāruhiruhi



Black shag / māpunga



Foveaux shag / mapo