

Little shag Kawaupaka

Phalacrocorax melanoleucos brevirostris



Otago
Regional
Council



Conservation status

Regional | Threatened: Vulnerable
National | At Risk: Relict



Main threats

Pollution, habitat degradation

A bit about me...



Length:
56 cm



Weight:
400–880 g



Range

Range:

Widespread across Otago and Aotearoa New Zealand in both coastal and freshwater habitats. Nests on cliffs or in trees over water.



Key Otago sites:

- Matainaka / Hawksbury Lagoon
- Te Awa Ōtākou / Otago Harbour

New Zealand endemic

A familiar small cormorant with a long tail, black feet and stubby yellow bill. Plumage ranges from completely black to black and white. Young birds tend to have duller, darker plumage and bills. Solitary feeder that eats fish and crustaceans. Silent except when at colonies.

Similar birds:



Little black shag / kawau tū



Pied shag / kāruhiruhi