Westland petrel Tāiko

Otago Regional Council

Procellaria westlandica



Conservation status

Regional | Migrant National | Naturally Uncommon



Main threats

Fisheries competition and bycatch, climate change, pollution





Length: 50–55 cm



Weight: 1.1 kg





Migratory range

Range:

Only breeds in the native forest of the Paparoa Range on Te Tai Poutini / West Coast of Te Waipounamu / South Island. Common in waters around mainland Aotearoa New Zealand in winter and spring. Migrates to South American waters after breeding.



Key Otago sites:

- Otago canyons
- Occaisionally seen inshore



A large, robust seabird with uniform brown-black plumage and long, broad wings. Its heavy ivory-coloured bill is black at the tip. Mostly solitary at sea, where it feeds via surface-seizing and diving. Moans and rattling shrieks are heard in the colony after dusk.

Similar bird:



White-chinned petrel / karetai kauae mā