

# South Island fernbird | mātātā

*Bowdleria punctata punctata*



## Conservation status

Regional | At Risk: Declining  
National | At Risk: Declining



## Main threats

Introduced mammalian predators, habitat loss and degradation



**Length:**  
18 cm



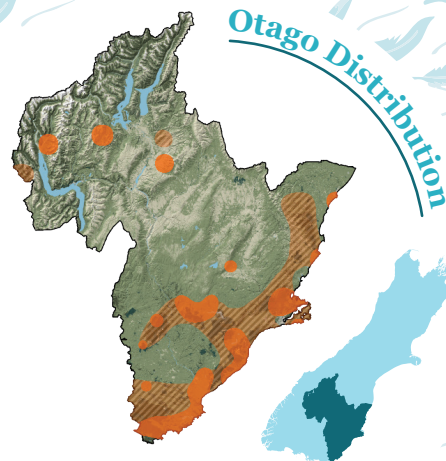
**Weight:**  
35 g

A bit about me...



## New Zealand endemic

A small, inconspicuous bird that seldom flies or leaves cover. Its scruffy brown and white plumage is patterned with black streaks, and a frayed tail doubles its length. A loud 'u-tick' call is given between members of a pair, along with a low rattling.



Range



Potential  
presence

## Range:

Populations appear to be disconnected and sparse in wetland and scrubland habitats across Otago and the wider Te Waipounamu / South Island. Can be common in large wetlands, and populations may be more linked than we realise.

## Key Otago sites:



- Te Nohoaka o Tukiaua / Sinclair Wetlands
- Tautuku Estuary

## Similar birds:



New Zealand pipit / pīhoihoi



Dunnock