

# Fiordland crested penguin | Tawaki

*Eudyptes pachyrhynchus*



## Conservation status

Regional | Migrant  
National | At Risk: Declining



## Main threats

Fisheries competition and bycatch, climate change, introduced mammalian predators, disturbance

A bit about me...



Length:  
60 cm



Weight:  
4 kg



Otago Distribution

● Migratory range

## Range:

Visits Otago coastline to moult in late summer, with three local breeding attempts since 2010. Breeds in native forest in spring around Rakiura / Stewart Island, Fiordland, and Te Tai Poutini / West Coast. Forages in fiords and the open ocean, migrating to seas far south of Australia after breeding.

## Key Otago sites:

- Muaupoko / Otago Peninsula
- Te Ākau Tai Toka / The Catlins



## New Zealand endemic

A stout black and white penguin with a chunky orange bill. On both sides of the head, a yellow crest extends from the bill to well past the eye, drooping down the neck. Face is black with whitish streaking just below the dark red eye. Feet are pale pink on top and black underneath. Land-bound for two to four weeks annually while replacing all its feathers in a 'catastrophic' moult.

## Similar birds:



Erect-crested penguin /  
tawaki nana hī



Snares crested penguin /  
pokotiwha