

# South Island pied oystercatcher | tōrea

*Haematopus finschi*



## Conservation status

Regional | Threatened: Vulnerable  
National | At Risk: Declining



## Main threats

Habitat loss and degradation,  
introduced mammalian  
predators

A bit about me...



**Length:**  
46 cm



**Weight:**  
550 g



 Range

## Range:

Otago is a national stronghold. Found in almost any open habitat, even far inland. Nests on braided riverbeds, farmland and mountaintops, migrating to the coast. Breeds only in Te Waipounamu / South Island but ranges across Aotearoa New Zealand.

## Key Otago sites:

- Te Awa Whakatipu / Dart River
- Mātakitaki / Matukituki River
- Makarore / Makarora River
- Waitete / Waitati Inlet
- Te Awa Ōtākou / Otago Harbour



## New Zealand endemic

A distinctive shorebird with neat black and white plumage and red eyes. A long, straight orange bill allows it to probe deep into sand and mud for invertebrates. White wing bars can be seen in flight. Young birds tend to have duller bills and brown eyes.

## Similar bird:



Variable oystercatcher / tōrea pango