

Southern diving petrel | kuaka

Pelecanoides urinatrix chathamensis



Otago
Regional
Council



Conservation status

Regional | Migrant
National | At Risk: Relict



Main threats

Climate change, pollution

A bit about me...



Length:
20 cm



Weight:
130 g



Migratory range

Range:

Nests in burrows on islands around Rakiura / Stewart Island, Tini Heke / Snares Islands, and Rēkohu / Chatham Islands. A regular sight in waters south of Aotearoa New Zealand.



Key Otago sites:

- Otago canyons, particularly in summer and autumn
- Sometimes seen inshore

New Zealand endemic

A small, densely built seabird with a stubby bill (resembles a miniature penguin on the water). Glossy black plumage with a greenish tinge. Underside is smudged white, bill is black and feet are bright blue. Purposeful flier with short, whirring wingbeats. Catches plankton via wing-propelled diving, reaching depths of up to 60 metres. Call is a sweet, rising 'croon'.