

Gibson's albatross Toroa

Diomedea antipodensis gibsoni



Conservation status

Regional | Migrant
National | Threatened: Critical



Main threats

Fisheries competition and bycatch, climate change, pollution

A bit about me...



Length:
110 cm



Weight:
4.5–8.5 kg



 Migratory range

Range:

Regular visitor to mainland Aotearoa New Zealand waters. Breeds on the subantarctic Maungahuka / Motu Maha / Auckland Islands and ranges throughout the Southern Ocean.

Key Otago sites:

- Otago canyons, particularly in winter
- Rarely seen inshore



New Zealand endemic

A large, pink-billed seabird that ranges from chocolate brown to white in colour as it ages. The tail and crown whiten completely while the majority of the upperwings remain dark brown. Wingspan can reach over three metres. A long, hooked bill helps it seize squid. Courtship routine is elaborate and involves dancing, screaming and bill-clapping.

Similar birds:



Southern royal albatross / toroa



Antipodean albatross / toroa, which is typically smaller and darker



Northern royal albatross / toroa