

Australian coot

Fulica atra australis



Otago
Regional
Council



Conservation status

Regional | Coloniser
National | Naturally Uncommon



Main threats

None

A bit about me...



Length:
35–39 cm



Weight:
520–570 g



Range

Range:

Widespread throughout Aotearoa New Zealand on bodies of freshwater. Colonised from Australia, first breeding in Otago in 1958.



Key Otago sites:

- Whakatipu Waimāori / Lake Wakatipu
- Te Wairere / Lake Dunstan
- Tomahaka / Tomahawk Lagoon

New Zealand native

A round grey-black waterbird with a white bill and shield. Adults have deep-red eyes and grey, lobed feet. Young birds have pale undersides, grey bills and lack the shield, while chicks have bright red, blue and orange heads. Harsh 'krek' calls can be heard from afar. Mainly herbivorous.

Similar bird:



New Zealand scaup / pāpango