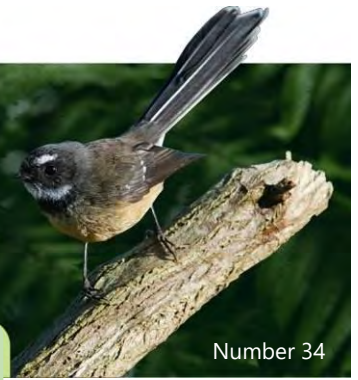


Biodiversity






Number 34

Significant seabird feeding and nesting areas on the Taranaki coast

The Taranaki coast is an important area for many significant seabirds that require safe and undisturbed feeding and nesting areas. This factsheet provides some basic information about the behavior of these birds and the times when they are most vulnerable.

Known breeding and feeding areas (based on observations) have been identified on the Local Maps Biodiversity portal layer 'Seabird nesting and feeding areas'. This data is not necessarily a complete representation of all seabird nesting and feeding areas and is based on current known observations and cannot be considered a complete inventory of all of the locations which are important to these species.

Biodiversity Portal: www.trc.govt.nz/seabird-areas

Species	Behaviour																								
<p>Kororā/Little blue penguin</p> 	<p>Nest in burrows, caves, rock crevices, nesting boxes and under buildings from June through to January and only come ashore in cover of darkness. Also spend time ashore later in the year during moulting from November to March.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="678 1131 1460 1299"> <thead> <tr> <th>Jan</th> <th>Feb</th> <th>March</th> <th>April</th> <th>May</th> <th>June</th> <th>July</th> <th>Aug</th> <th>Sept</th> <th>Oct</th> <th>Nov</th> <th>Dec</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>●●</td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td>●●</td> <td>●●</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>● – Nesting ● - Moulting</p>	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	●●	●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●●	●●
Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec														
●●	●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●●	●●														
<p>Tūturiwhatu/NZ dotterel</p> 	<p>In Taranaki, nest on the coast mainly amongst driftwood above the high tide mark. Usually close to freshwater streams and rivers. Nests are crude depressions in the sand and highly susceptible to damage and disturbance. The breeding season extends from mid-September through until March.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="694 1534 1444 1702"> <thead> <tr> <th>Jan</th> <th>Feb</th> <th>March</th> <th>April</th> <th>May</th> <th>June</th> <th>July</th> <th>Aug</th> <th>Sept</th> <th>Oct</th> <th>Nov</th> <th>Dec</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	●	●	●						●	●	●	●
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●	●	●						●	●	●	●														
<p>Tōrea/Oyster catcher</p> 	<p>Most commonly breed on sandy beaches, sandpits and in dunes. The breeding season extends from mid September through until March.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="694 1859 1444 2027"> <thead> <tr> <th>Jan</th> <th>Feb</th> <th>March</th> <th>April</th> <th>May</th> <th>June</th> <th>July</th> <th>Aug</th> <th>Sept</th> <th>Oct</th> <th>Nov</th> <th>Dec</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> <td>●</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	●	●	●						●	●	●	●
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Tara/White fronted tern



In Taranaki, nests on select coastal cliffs and sea stacks. The breeding season extends from October through until January.

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
●	●	●						●	●	●	●

Tarāpunga/Red-billed gull



In Taranaki, nests on select coastal cliffs and sea stacks. The breeding season extends from September through until January.

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
●								●	●	●	●

Pelagic seabird nesting



Pelagic seabirds are those seabirds that spend the majority of their lives at sea but come onto land for breeding. They include the diving petrel, white faced storm petrel and grey faced petrel. Breeding and vulnerable times are across the entire year depending on breed.

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Diving petrel								●	●	●	●	●
White faced storm petrel	●	●	●	●						●	●	●
Grey faced petrel	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Other coastal birds



In Taranaki there are significant coastal feeding areas used by coastal birds that have a conservation status of 'threatened' or 'at risk'. While some of these species remain at the feeding site all year round e.g. reef heron, NZ pipit, black shag, others are only observed outside of breeding season e.g. banded dotterel, Caspian tern, pied shag. These sites can also provide valuable feeding and resting sites for rare migrants during their migration e.g. bar-tailed godwit, ruddy turnstone and golden plover.

Note: The Department of Conservation provides information on the conservation status of New Zealand Birds at:

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-and-technical/nztc19entire.pdf>

More information about these (and other) birds can be found at New Zealand Birds online:

<http://nzbirdsonline.org.nz/>



TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL

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