

birds would often take to wing and some flew distances of several hundred yards. These birds generally returned to their territories quickly.

Those scared in the company of chicks seldom flew — instead the typical “broken-wing” distraction display was performed.

The species is very active at night, and it is during this period that the bulk of feeding is done.

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## SHORT NOTE

### DO KIWIS LIVE NEAR STREAMS?

Recently browsing in the library, I noticed a comment by Hartman and Shorland. They report that much of the skin fat of a Kiwi, *Apteryx australis mantelli*, was of C20 unsaturated fatty acids. This fat would have been derived from aquatic fauna and showed that this Kiwi frequently fed from streams.

My experience with the Great Spotted Kiwi, *A. haasti*, adds weight to this result. In October 1958 I stumbled on a Great Spotted Kiwi nest. This nest was under an avalanche boulder about three yards from the Edwards River and five yards inside the forest from the bushline. Often I have heard these Kiwis when at the Edwards Hut. An especially close bird may be heard calling by the stream at the top of the fan behind the hut, which is at the bushline. Probably its nest is under the moraine on the ridge above this fan. For several years I sought to find this nest without success.

This Kiwi is common near the rivers and by the bushline in the Bealey and Mingha Valleys, Arthurs Pass National Park. Deeper within the forest it is found near pakihis, on roche-moutonnes across the valley floor or on the peat bogs between lateral moraines left during the Ice Age. In the Grey District some pakihis are on the very barren soils formed from weathered Brunner formation rock. Great Spotted Kiwis are found in such places.

By Kelly's Hut at the junction of Kelly's stream and the Otira River, I have heard a different Kiwi. The forest here is of rimu. By negative inference I judge this Kiwi to be the South Island Kiwi, *A. australis australis*.

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