

CLASSIFIED SUMMARISED NOTES, SOUTH ISLAND AND OUTLYING ISLANDS, 1 JULY 1998 - 30 JUNE 1999

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Classified Summarised Notes (CSN) are a selection of bird observations provided by members and friends of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand each year. The purpose of CSN is to record the results of bird census counts, anecdotal observations of behaviour and habitat, sightings of rare species and common species outside their normal range, and to improve our understanding of New Zealand bird distribution and regional status. Compilations from Regional Recorders from Nelson, West Coast, Canterbury, Otago and Southland were received, but not from Marlborough, although several individuals provided sightings from these regions.

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Regional Recorders: P. D. Gaze - Nelson, B. Cash - Marlborough, B. J. Stuart-Menteath - West Coast, J. West - Canterbury, J. Wilson - Otago, L. Esler - Southland.

Regional Abbreviations: [NE] Nelson, [MA] Marlborough, [WC] West Coast, [CA] Canterbury, [CI] Chatham Islands, [OT] Otago, [SO] Southland.

Abbreviations: ad adult; AF Airfield; asl above sea level; B Beach; BP Banks Peninsula; c. approximately; Crk Creek; E East; Est Estuary; fem female; grp group; Hbr Harbour; Hd Head; HQ Headquarters; ha hectare; h hours; imm immature; incl including; I Island; Is Islands; juv juvenile; km kilometres; L Lake; Lgn Lagoon; max maximum; m metres; min minimum; Mt Mount; Mts Mountains; NP National Park; Nth North; pr pair; Pk Peak; Pen Peninsula; Pt Point; R River; Ra Range; RM River Mouth; Rd Road; SP Sewage Ponds; Sd Sound; SHW State Highway; Sth South; Stm Stream; SF State Forest; Stn Station; Str Strait; Trk Track; V Valley; W West.

SYSTEMATIC LIST

Great spotted kiwi *Apteryx haastii*

[NE] Perry Saddle Hut, Heaphy Trk, footprints seen and 1 heard on 10/2 (MM).

Australasian crested grebe *Podiceps cristatus australis* [WC] L Ianthe, 8 ad + 2 juvs on census from kayak of whole lake on 28/1/98 (K-JW). [CA] L Forsyth, 10 on 25/7, 20 on 29/8, 9 on 27/9, 1 on 26/12, 1 on 25/3 (NA), 16 on 30/4 (SB), 8 on 1/5, 40 on 26/6. Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, 4 on 25/7, 5 on 27/9, 5 on 31/10 (NA). L Pearson, 2 well grown imms on 18/4 (WK,PG). L Pearson, 5 on 6/6 (PC). L Heron, 2 well separated on 30/9, 2 separate on 11/6. L Emily, 2 prs displaying, 2 singles wide apart in rough water on 30/9. Maori Ls, 1 pr on 30/9 (PG). L Opuha, 1 pr, 1 bird sitting out of water while other bird passing vegetation but no nest seen at that time (SB). Glenburn, L Benmore, 1 ad + 2 juv on 23/1 (AB). [SO] L Monowai, pr at Pt Miller on 13/10 (IS). Island L, 3 on 9/1 (PR).

Australasian little grebe *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*
[CA] The Levels, Timaru, 1 on 14/3 (KG).]

Wandering albatross *Diomedea exulans exulans*
[MA] Kaikoura, 5 on 8/6 (PC). [OT] Taiaroa Hd, 1 landed during storm on 7/5 (AW).

Royal albatross *Diomedea epomophora*
[OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, present on 18/3 (MR).

Black-browed mollymawk *Diomedea melanophrys*
[MA] Kaikoura, 3 on 8/6 (PC).

Shy mollymawk *Diomedea cauta cauta*
[NE] Brightwater, 1 emaciated juv found dead on 20/1, well inland (PDG). [MA] Kaikoura, 6 on 8/6 (PC). [OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, present on 18/3 (MR).

Buller's mollymawk *Diomedea bulleri*
[MA] Kaikoura, 1 on 8/6 (PC). [OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, present on 18/3 (MR).

Buller's shearwater *Puffinus bulleri*
[MA] SthW of Sinclair Hd, 20 from interisland ferry on 5/1. Nr 41°34'S, 174°34'E, 7 on 24/4. Kaikoura, 18 about 20 km offshore on 10/12. [CA] Nr 43°15'S, 173°15'E, 4 on 23/4 (K-JW). [SO] Snares Is, 2 close inshore on 8/2 (LE).

Sooty shearwater *Puffinus griseus*
[MA] Kaikoura, offshore, 1 with extensively mottled white on body on 24/10 (TC). [CA] Voyage from Lyttelton-Nelson, only ca 20 on 9-12/12 (K-JW). [OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, present on 18/3 (MR).

Fluttering shearwater *Puffinus gavia*
[OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders present on 18/3 (MR).

Little shearwater *Puffinus assimilis*
[CA] 2.5 km SthE of Akaroa Hds, Banks Pen, 1 on 27/10/97 (K-JW).

Common diving petrel *Pelecanoides urinatrix*

[CA] Nr 43°07'S, 173°25'E, 3 on 23/4 (K-JW). [SO] Oreti B, 1 freshly dead with 5 huge ticks on its head on 20/9 (LE). [OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, 1 on 18/3 (MR).

Grey petrel *Procellaria cinerea*

[CA] Camp Bay, Lyttelton Hbr, 4 on 1/5 circling trawler that had just anchored in the bay (K-JW).

Westland petrel *Procellaria westlandica*

[MA] Kaikoura, 10 on 8/6 (PC). [WC] Nikau Scenic Reserve, 1 fledgling found dead beside SHW6 with broken wing on 30/11 (BJS).

White-chinned petrel *Procellaria aequinoctialis*

[OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, present on 18/3 (MR).

Cape pigeon *Daption capense*

[MA] Kaikoura, c.50 on 8/6 (PC). [OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, present on 18/3 (MR).

Northern giant petrel *Macronectes halli*

[MA] Kaikoura, 2 on 8/6 (PC). [CA] Timaru Hbr, 1 on 9/10, 400 m off shore (AC). [OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, 1 on 18/3 (MR).

Southern giant petrel *Macronectes giganteus*

[MA] Kaikoura, 1 on 8/6 (PC).

Giant petrel *Macronectes* sp.

[MA] Arapawa I, Cook Str, 2 on 12/1/98 (BC).

Fairy prion *Pachyptila turtur*

[OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, present on 18/3 (MR).

Thin-billed prion *Pachyptila belcheri*

[OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, 1 on 18/3 (MR).

Broad-billed prion *Pachyptila vittata*

[OT] 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, 1 on 18/3 (MR).

Cook's petrel *Pterodroma cookii*

[SO] Whenua Hou (Codfish I), 25 chicks from 28 eggs in 41 study burrows on 20-23/3, the most successful breeding year since study began in 1983 (WC).

Mottled petrel *Pterodroma inexpectata*

[SO] Gold Burn, Fiordland, heard at night over stream mouth on 19-21/1 (IS).

[Black-bellied storm petrel *Fregatta tropica*

[MA] Nr 41°52'S, 174°37'E and nr 41°32'S, 174°34'E, single sightings on 24/4 (K-JW).]

Yellow-eyed penguin *Megadyptes antipodes*

[SO] Blue Cod Bay, none on 10/10. Curio Bay, 4 nests in Oct. Nth Hd, Waikawa Hbr, 2 nests with 2 eggs each and 1 abandoned nest with 1 egg on 11/10. Slope Pt, 3 on 10/10, 1 non-breeder only on 12/12, population has fallen from 8 birds since the colony was fenced 7 years ago. Penguin B, Whenua Hou (Codfish I), 23 ashore between 1955 and 2100 hrs on 6/1 (WC).

Blue penguin *Eudyptula minor*

[MA] Kaikoura, 1 on 8/6 (PC). [CA] 100 m E of Ripapa I, Lyttelton Hbr, 1 on 31/10, rarely seen in inner hbr (K-JW).

Fiordland crested penguin *Eudyptes pachyrhynchus*

[SO] Stewart I, entrance to Half Moon Bay, 9 on 28/11 (TC).

Australasian gannet *Morus serrator*

[CA] Waipara RM, 2 on 14/1 (AC), c.10 flying south, some immes on 5/4. Ashworths B, 2 ad & 1 juv flying south on 14/3 (NA). Birdlings Flat, 2 on 1/8 (AC,DS). Nr Quail I, Lyttelton Hbr, 1 on 22-23/5 (K-JW). [OT] Long B, 1 on 11/4 (JVM).

Taiaroa Hd, 5 on 7/5 (AW). Off St Kilda B, 3 on 30/12, 1 on 28/7, 13/11, 11/1 (K&JVM). 26 km EStHE of Cape Saunders, 2 juv on 18/3 (MR).

Black shag *Phalacrocorax carbo*

[CA] L Forsyth, 36 on 19/11, 71 on 1/5. Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, 33 on 29/8, 52 on 27/2. Timberyard Pt, L Ellesmere, 51 on 30/8. Drain Rd, L Ellesmere, 71 on 30/8, Fishermans Pt, L Ellesmere, 54 on 31/1 (NA). [OT] L Logan, Lammerlaw Ra, 2 on 5/3 (K&JVM).

Pied shag *Phalacrocorax varius*

[MA] Gem Resort, Marlborough Sds, 9 birds + 5 nests on 19/8/97 (BC). [CA] Ashley Est/Saltwater Crk, 22 on 9/8, 29 on 20/12, 30 on 25/4 (NA).

Little black shag *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

[CA] Saltwater Crk, 1 on 10/1, 22/1 (NA). Taranaki Crk, 1 forced a little shag from its (empty?) nest then settled in as if incubating on 2/1 (TC). Irwell RM, L Ellesmere, 1 on 15/8 (SPAC). Christchurch, small numbers in autumn & winter on Horseshoe L, Avon R (Avondale, Wainoni, Bexley), Bromley SP, Linwood Ave Canal (AC).

Little shag *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

[MA] Gem Resort, Marlborough Sds, 5 on 19/8/97 (BC). [CA] Ashley Est/Saltwater Crk, 17 on 9/8 (NA). Westlake, Halswell, 2 on 22/5 (KCH,SP). Drain Rd, L Ellesmere, 103 on 26/7, 116 on 30/8, 193 on 20/11. L Forsyth, 57 on 25/7 (NA), 85 on 29/5 (SB).

NZ king shag *Leucocarbo carunculatus*

[MA] Off Cutters Bay, Port Underwood, 2 on 3/4 (K-JW). Endeavour Inlet, 1 roosting on 10/7/95. Scott Pt, 2 on 29/9/97 flew into Endeavour Inlet. Motuara I, 1 on 5/9/95, c.7 on 25/10/95, 1 on 19/3/97. Spencer Bay, 1 on 6/9/95, 2 on 6/6/96. Bottle Rock, 3 flying sth on 19/9/95. Nth Resolution Bay, 1 on 22/11/95. Ship Cove, 1 imm by wharf on 21/6/96. Nth Blumine I, 1 flying sth on 25/11/96. Edgecombe Pt, 3 on 6/12/96. Nth Kura Kura Pt, 1 on 19/3/97, 1 imm on 6/6/97. Ruakaka Bay, 1 imm on rocks on 3/4/97. Weat Hd, 1 on 17/6/97. E Bay, Hippa I, Anatoha Bay, pr thought to be nesting on 26/8/97, pr roosting on 19/9/97. Dieffenbach Pt, 1 feeding in mid channel on 5/9/97. White Rocks colony, c.50 include 6 immes on 19/9/97. Long I, 1 on 7/11/97 (BC).

Stewart Island shag *Leucocarbo chalconotus*

[SO] Pig I, Foveaux Str, 12 ad and 10 nests on 16-17/12, a new nesting site (WC).

Spotted shag *Stictocarbo punctatus*

[MA] Gem Resort, Marlborough Sds, 78 birds + 32 nests on 19/8/97. E Bay, Anatohi Bay, 6 birds + 2 nests on 24/9/97 (BC). [CA] Saltwater Crk, c.200 on 4/10, 89 on 22/1, 160 on 18/3 (NA). Ashburton RM, 3000+ roosting on 28/2. Opihi RM, 56 on 28/3. Timaru Hbr, 403 on 9/10 (AC). [OT] Off Karitane, ca 1000 on 27/3. Hd of Otago Hbr, c.3000 on 7/4 (K&JVM). [SO] Gold Burn, Fiordland, 3 on beach, 1 with traces of breeding plumage with no white stripe in front of eye suggests blue shag, *S. punctatus stedi* (IS).

White-faced heron *Ardea novaehollandiae*

[CA] Ashley Est/Saltwater Crk, 29 on 18/1 (NA). LII RM, L Ellesmere, 39 preying on a school of fish caught in shallows on 16/1 (AC). Fishermans Pt, L Ellesmere, 21 on 20/11. Wolfes Rd, L Ellesmere, 33 on 27/12 (NA). [OT] Aramoana, 1 on 13/6. Papanui Inlet, 11 on 13/6. Hoopers Inlet, 5 on 13/6. W Otago Hbr, 2 on 13/6. E Otago Hbr, 6 on 13/6 (LF). [SO] Kauaua, 1 corpse with dried cow dung thickly caked on both ankles in May (MMcK).

White heron *Egretta alba*

[MA] Picton Marina, 1 on 28-29/8/97, 1 on 4/9/97, 1 on 11/4/98. Mistletoe Bay, 1 on 20/4/98. Anakiwi, 1 in April 1998 (BC). [WC] Karamea, 1 on 19/6 (BJSJ). [CA] Ashley Est, 1 on 4/7, 5/4, 25/4. Ashworths Lgn, 1 on 14/2 (NA). Styx RM, 1 through autumn & winter 1999. Avon-Heathcote Est, Linwood Ave Canal, Avon R, Travis Swamp & Christchurch, 1 autumn and winter 1998, returned April 1999 (AC). L Forsyth, 1 on 25/7, 29/8, 1/5, 3 on 26/6. Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, 3 on 25/7, 1 on 27/2, 25/3, 1/5, 26/6 (NA). Davidsons Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 on 19/8, 10/9 (KCH,SP). Yarrs Flat, L Ellesmere, 2 on 11/5 (CH). Fishermans Pt, L Ellesmere, 1 on 26/7. Timberyard Pt, L Ellesmere, 1 on 26/7, 27/6. Wolfes Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 on 30/8, 12/9, 26/9, 2 on 11/10, 1 on 2/5, 27/6. Drain Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 on 30/8, 26/3. Saltwater Crk, Timaru, 1 on 12/6. Ki-Wainono, 1 on 12/6 (NA). [OT] All Day Bay, 1 on 11/10 & 25/10 (AB). Tomahawk Lgn, 1 being dive-bombed by red-billed gulls on 17/1 (BMcK).

Little egret *Egretta garzetta*

[CA] Irwell RM, 1 on 15/8 (SPAC).]

Intermediate egret *Egretta intermedia*

[CA] Colin Hill Farm, 3 on 13/8 (CH).

Reef heron *Egretta sacra*

[MA] Waikawa Bay, 1 on 7/7/95. Motuara I, 1 on 5/9/95, 1 on 17/10/95, 2 on 16/10/96. Karaka Bay, 1 at The Snout on 20/9/95. Long I, 2 on 20/4/96, 4 on western cliffs on 16/10/96. Scott Pt, 1 on 26/4/96. Ruakaka Bay, 1 on 3/4/97. Ship Cove, 1 on 1/5/97. Allports I, 1 on 28/5/97. Matiere Pt, E Bay, 1 on 19/9/97 (BC). Kaikoura Coast, 1 nth from Ocean View café on 8/8 (NA). [OT] Akatore, 1 on 24/5 (AB). [SO] Barracuda Pt, 1 on 27/9. Ocean B, Bluff, 1 on 2/10 (EB). Gold Burn, Fiordland, 1 at stream mouth on 19/1 (IS).

Cattle egret *Bubulcus ibis*

[MA] Koromiko, 6 feeding in paddock with cows on 6/5/98 (BC). [WC] Karamea, 15 in flock among dairy cows on 19/6 (BJSJ). [CA] Ashley R, by SH1, 2 in almost complete breeding plumage on 16/5, 18 on 26/6 (TC). Waikuku, 1 on 12/5 (KCH,SP). Taranaki Crk paddocks, 2 on 27/6 (NA). Marshlands, Christchurch, 2 on 2/6 (AC). Davidsons Rd, L Ellesmere, 29 on 19/8, 31 on 10/9 (KCH,SP), 5 on 27/6. Lake Rd, L Ellesmere, 25 on 12/7, 11 on 29/8. Embankment Rd, L Ellesmere, 14 on 26/9 (NA). [SO] Wallacetown, 25 on 14/9, 36 on 31/10, 31 on 10/6. Timpanys, 7 on 10/10. Tuatapere, 13 on 9/6 (LE). Kauana, 1 being attacked by two magpies on 10/5 (MMcK).

Australasian bittern *Botaurus poiciloptilus*

[CA] Colin Hill farm, L Ellesmere, 1 on 21/4 (KCH,SP), 1 from April to mid July (CH). Harts Crk, L Ellesmere, 1 booming on 30/8, 26/9, 3 booming on 1/11. Coopers Lgn, 1 on 1/11 (NA). Maori Ls, 2 flew across lake on 14/1 (PG,GMcQ). Ohau-Pukaki Delta, McKenzie Basin, at least 3 prs on small ponds and wetlands in spring-summer 1998 (AC,DS,SB).

Glossy ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

[CA] Waikuku, Taranaki Crk paddocks, 1 on 8/5 (TC), 10/5 (NA), 12/5 (KCH,SP). L Ellesmere, 1 on 7/1, 9/1, 1/4 (CH), 2 on 7/3 (AC). [SO] Mararoa, 2 feeding in paddocks on 10/1 (JWd).]

Royal spoonbill *Platalea regia*

[WC] Oparara Est, 1 on 19/6. Karamea, 1 on 19/6 (BJSJ). [CA] Ashley Est, 1 on 26/10, 3 on 25/4, 1 on 9/5, 2 on 27/5 (NA), 5 on 7/6 (OSNZ), 2 on 12/6 (NA). Christchurch,

Woolston Cut, 1 feeding on waters edge on 8/9 (JW). Travis Swamp, Christchurch, 2 in Aug (AC). Avon-Heathcote Est, 28 on 30/8, 12 on 10/9, 27 on 15/9, 6 on 22/10 (KCH,SP), 5 on 13/12. McCormicks Bay, 7 on 18/4 (NA), 27 on 7/6 (PC,NA,DM). Bromley SP, 67 on 17/3 (KCH,SP). L Forsyth, 5 on 26/7 (SB), 3 on 29/8, 27/9, 6 on 26/12 (NA), 2 on 16/1 (SB,AC). Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, 1 on 27/9, 13 on 19/11, 30/1, 28 on 27/2 (NA), 53 on 22/3 (CH), 20 on 25/3, 11 on 1/5. Wolfes Rd, L Ellesmere, 14 on 12/9, 5 on 26/9. Greenpark, L Ellesmere, 5 on 11/10. Harts Crk, L Ellesmere, 1 on 31/1. Drain Rd, L Ellesmere, 2 on 26/3 (NA). Davidsons Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 on 19/8 (KCH,SP). [OT] Hampden, 2 on 26/1 (RB). Maukiekie I colony, first 2 returned on 10/9 (KB,TM). Hawkesbury Lgn, 1 on 27/12 (JAW), 4 on 19/1 (K&JVM), 19 on 25/4 (AW). Waikouaiti Est, 3 on 28/12, 1 on 22/1, 34 on 27/3. W Otago Hbr, 1 on 21/2, 2 on 3/7, 2 on 17/3, 1 on 18/3, 4 on 21/3, 2 on 11/4 (K&JVM). Blueskin Bay, 1 overwinter (PS). Hoopers Inlet, 5 on 29/11 (K&JVM), 19 on 1/3 (AW). Anderson Bay, 1 on 13/11, 3 on 20/11, 6 on 30/11, 2 on 4/12, 4 on 15/12, 4 on 30/12, 1 on 7/1, 2 on 22/3, 3 on 5/4, 1 on 12/4. Tomahawk Lgn, 3 on 4/12. Kaikorai Est, 1 on 28/11, 3 on 24/1, 9 on 25/1 (K&JVM). Green I colony, first arrivals on 26/9 (LJG), 10 on 28/11, 13 on 24/1 (K&JVM). Taieri RM, 1 overwinter (PS). [SO] Omaui I, 28 on 29/10. Omaui B, 4 dead juvs in May (EB). Pig I, Foveaux Str, 21 and 1 nest with 3 eggs on 16-17/12, a new breeding site (WC). Invercargill, 1 wandering around carpark on 7/1 after gale (LE).

Mute swan *Cygnus olor*

[CA] Waikuku Beach, Taranaki Crk, 2 + 7 cygnets on 22/11, all raised to maturity until 2 killed by children in June (TC), 1 ad & 7 juvs on 10/5 (NA). Travis Swamp, Christchurch, 1 in June-Oct (AC,DS,NA,SB). Lower Avon R, 1 just nth of Bridge St on 15/8 (SB). L Forsyth, max 2 on 26/12, 10/1, 27/2, 1/5. Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, 7 on 25/7. Drain Rd, L Ellesmere, 32 on 20/11. Harts Crk, L Ellesmere, 4 on 30/8. Timberyard Pt, L Ellesmere, 15 on 2/5. Fishermans Pt, L Ellesmere, 6 on 26/7 (NA). Aatahua to Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, 7 on 26/7 (SB). Coopers Lgn, 27 on 4/7 (KCH,SP), 41 on 31/1 (NA). [OT] All Day Bay, 1 on 31/12 (AB).

Black swan *Cygnus atratus*

[CA] L Emily, 1 obviously on nest on 30/9. Maori Ls, c.170 on 11/6 (PG). [OT] Dunedin City Council landfill pond, 1 ad + 4 downy juvs on 24/1 (K&JVM).

Canada goose *Branta canadensis*

[CA] Travis Swamp, Christchurch, up to 2500 in winter 1998, 1128 on 29/4, 1262 on 22/5 (AC). L Grasmere, 25 on 6/6 (OSNZ). Maori Ls, c.50 on 30/9 (PG). [OT] All Day Bay, 32 on 4/4 (AB). Hawkesbury Lgn, 1 on 27/12, 3 on 10/1 (JAW). [SO] Awarua Bay, 6 in wetland unable to fly properly on 30/1, crop of one full of red tussock seed which contained alot of ergot (LE).

Cape Barren goose *Cereopsis novaehollandiae*

[NE] Takaka, 1 reported on several occasions during Dec (PDG).]

Paradise shelduck *Tadorna variegata*

[MA] Ship Cove, pr on 30/7/97. Davies Bay, pr on 22/8/97. Picton, pr on foreshore on 27-28/8/97. Te Punga, Tory Channel, pr on 19/9/97. Old whaling station, Tory Channel, pr on 19/9/97. Anotahai Bay, pr on 19/9/97. Cannibal Cove, pr on 19/9/97 (BC). [CA] St Annes Lgn, Cheviot, 827 on 7/3 (SB). Kaiapoi SP wetlands, 494 on 1/2 (AC). L Forsyth, 265 on 26/12, 1085 on 30/1. Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, c.250 on 25/3. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 213 on 26/3 (NA). [OT] Waianakarua R,

44 on 3/4 (K&JVM). Moeraki, 120 in May (AE). L Logan, 2 on 26/12. Papanui Inlet, 21 on 13/6. Hoopers Inlet, 34 on 15/11 (K&JVM). [SO] Waituna Lgn, 1000+ on 13/2 together with large flocks of grey teal, Canada goose, feral goose, mallard and black swan. This unusual flock possibly concentrated on lagoon by severe drought inland (LE).

Blue duck *Hymenolaimus malacorhynchos*

[CA] Edwards Stm, Arthur's Pass, 2 on 16/7 (RG). [SO] Tūtoko V, 1 on 14/11 (IS).

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

[CA] Ashley Est/Saltwater Crk, c.906 on 18/4 (NA). Bottle L, 53 on 29/7 (AC). Avon R, Christchurch, a family of 32 ducklings in early Oct, reduced to 20 after heavy rain on 12/10 (JWa). Templeton SP, 1320 on 7/5 (AC). L Forsyth, 477 on 25/3, Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, c.450 on 25/7. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, c.850 on 26/7. Drain Rd, L Ellesmere, 525 on 26/3. Coopers Lgn, 352 on 31/1 (NA).

Grey duck *Anas superciliosa*

[CA] Ashley Est, 4 on 10/10 (NA).

Grey teal *Anas gracilis*

[CA] Ashley Est, 316 on 25/7 (NA). Kaiapoi SP, 439 on 1/2. Belfast SP, 93 on 25/3. Travis Swamp, 61 on 27/4, 243 on 7/5, 146 on 15/6 (AC). L Forsyth, 359 on 30/1. Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, c.2300 on 25/7. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, c.2000 on 26/7 (NA). L Heron, c.10 on 11/6 (PG). Spider Lgn, Ashburton Ls, 352 on 28/3. Opihi RM, 280 on 28/3 (AC). [OT] Papanui Inlet, 100 on 1/8 (BMcK). Falls Dam, 30 on 28/12. L Logan, 2 on 26/12, 6 on 5/3 (K&JVM).

NZ shoveler *Anas rhynchos*

[CA] Travis Swamp, 302 on 7/5, 197 on 15/6 (AC). Westlake, Halswell, 2 prs on 22/5 (KCH,SP). L Forsyth, 269 on 25/3. Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, c.1200 on 1/11. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 700 on 26/7 (NA). Templeton SP, 34 on 7/5 (AC). [OT] Papanui Inlet, 2 on 13/6 (K&JVM).

NZ scaup *Aythya novaeseelandiae*

[WC] L Ianthe, only 2 on census of whole lake on 25/1/98 (K-JW). [CA] Travis Swamp, 401 on 7/5. Bromley SP, 129 broods in 1998/99 breeding season, max 3223 on 19/5. Westlake, Halswell, 426 23/7/98 (AC), 90 on 22/5 (KCH,SP). Christchurch City census, 4369 on 23 sites in May. (AC,SP). L Forsyth, c.30 on 26/7, first record in over 2 yrs of monthly counts, c.150 on 24/6 (SB). L Pearson, 135 on 6/6 (OSNZ). L Heron, clutch of 4 quite small ducklings, others well fledged, adults reacting very noisily to a swooping black-backed gull on 14/1, c.100 in a flock on 11/6 (PG).

[Australian wood duck *Chenonetta jubata*

[NE] Nelson Haven 1 fem with Mallards feeding on scraps, seen several times in Jan, disappeared Feb (PDG). [MA] L Elterwater, pr in Mar (RP).]

Australasian harrier *Circus approximans*

[CA] Maori Ls, 1 recently dead for no apparent reason on 30/9, common nr roads on 11/6 (PG).

NZ falcon *Falco novaeseelandiae*

[MA] Gem Resort, Marlborough Sds, 1 on 8/8/97. Muritui Bay, pr on 25/5/97. Esson V, Picton, 1 on 21-23/9/97. Ngakuta Bay, 1 on 21/10/97. Kenepuru Scenic Reserve, 1 in April 1998 (BC). Awatere V, 1 pr on 1/11 (MM). [WC] Hibernia Crk area, 1 on 20/9, 23/10, 3/11. One among trees mewing frequently and responding to imitation calls by flying about looking for caller on 8/5 (BJSJ). [CA] Mt Pleasant, Christchurch, 1 flew over on 12/12 (PG,IG). Prices V Scenic

Reserve, 1 dark phase on 9/8/97 (K-JW). Bayview Rd, Diamond Hbr, 1 on 7/6 (J&BC). [OT] Loganburn, 1 on 25/12. Mareburn, 1 ad fem on 25/10. Taioma, 1 male on 4/10 (K&JVM). [SO] Robert Crk, Eyre Mts, 1 on 27/1. Futtah Gully, Mataura V, pr on 26/1. Windley R, 1 on bush edge on 30/11. Acton Stm, 1 in mixed beech forest on 3/12. Takatimu Mts, 1 in forest behind Aparima Huts on 2/12. Umbrella Mts, 1 at Crown Rock on 11/11. Tapanui faces, Blue Mts, 1 on 21/10. Upper Station Crk, 2 harassing Australasian harrier on 28/4. Mid Dome, 2 at c.880 m asl on 11/2 (WC). L Innes, Fiordland, nest on ground with 1 egg and 1 chick on 12/12. Thicket Burn, nest under log with 1 barely flying young on 22/12. L Kiwi, 2 passing food while flying over lake on 16/1 (IS).

[Red-legged partridge *Alectoris rufa*

[CA] Wilsons Rd, Ashburton, 1 on 9/1 in roadside paddocks (SB).]

Ring-necked pheasant *Phasianus cochicus*

[CA] Greenpark, L Ellesmere, 1 male on 30/8. Jarvis Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 heard on 26/9. Selwyn L Rd, 1 calling on 3/10. Coopers Lgn, 1 male on 26/3. Nth Rakaia Rd, 1 male on 3/10 (NA).

Western weka *Gallirallus australis australis*

[MA] Edgecombe Pt, Bakers Bay, 1 on 25/7/97. Between W Hd and Bull Hd, 1 on 17/6/97. Ship Cove, 1 on 30/7/97. Cockle Bay, 4 seen, others heard on 31/7/97. Shakespeare Bay Rd, 1 on 14/11/97. Mt Stokes, pr + 3 chicks + 1 ad male on 4/12/97. Kenepuru Flats, 1 on 5/12/97. Big Bay, Endeavour Inlet, ad + 1 chick on 6/1/98. Lazy Fish Backpackers, 3+ on 6/1/98 (BC). [SO] Tūtoko V, calls heard on 14/11 (IS). Pig I, Foveaux Str, probably < 20 on 16-17/12. Two attacks by weka on black-backed gull chicks seen from which both escaped bleeding, other injured chicks seen and cries heard indicated at least 7 further attacks during our stay (WC).

Spotless crane *Porzana tabuensis*

[CA] Harts Crk, L Ellesmere, 1 on 19/6 (NA).

Marsh crane *Porzana pusilla*

[CA] Kainga Wetland, Christchurch, 1 on 30/6 (AC). [SO] Woodlands, 1 on newly created wetland on 23/1 (MR).

Pukeko *Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus*

[CA] Waikuku, Taranaki Crk paddocks, 70 on 26/6 (NA). Bexley Wetland, Christchurch, max 87 on 17/8 (AC). L Forsyth, 48 on 26/7 (SB). Harts Crk, L Ellesmere, 43 on 26/7 (NA). [OT] Moeraki, 7 in May (AE).

Australian coot *Fulica atra australis*

[CA] L Heron, c.220 nr water gauge pool on 11/6 (PG).

South I pied oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus finschi*

[WC] Carters B Rd, Westport, 130 feeding in paddock on 18/6. Oparara Est, 304 on 19/6 (BJSJ). [CA] Ashley Est/Saltwater Crk, max of 370 on 9/5 (NA). Port Levy, 81 on 12/6. Travis Swamp, c.30 present through winter until Oct, fly to Avon-Heathcote Est each night to roost, returned autumn-winter 1999, max 43 on 13/5. Avon-Heathcote Est, max 4741 on 21/4 (AC). Harewood, Christchurch, 12 feeding on worked paddock on 30/9 (PG). Davidsons Rd, L Ellesmere, 33 on 4/7. Jarvis Rd, L Ellesmere, 75 on 4/7 (KCH,SP). Twizel playing fields, 132 on 9/12 (AC,DS). Ki-Wainono Lgn, 264 on 6/11 (SB). [OT] Aramoana, 250 on 13/6. Papanui Inlet, 135 on 13/6. Hoopers Inlet, 128 on 13/6. W Otago Hbr, 547 on 13/6. E Otago Hbr, 129 on 13/6. Otago Hbr LPG Depot, 150 on 13/6 (LF). [SO] Riverslea Farm, Manapouri, trio raised 4 chicks from 1 nest in spring (BN).

Variable oystercatcher *Haematopus unicolor*

[MA] Ship Cove, 20 on 30/7/97. Otanera Bay, 2 on 30/7/97. Long I, 2 on 31/7/97, 6 on 28/8/97. Te Punga, Tory Channel, pr on 19/9/97. Okukari Bay, pr on 19/9/97. Anatholia Bay, pr on 19/9/97 (BC). [WC] Okari Est, 7 on 27/11. Carters B Rd, Westport, 7 on 18/6. Arahura RM, 5 on 19/6 (BJSJ). [CA] Port Levy, 3 on 12/6. Purau, Lyttelton Hbr, 13 on 12/6 (AC). Avon-Heathcote Est, 37 on 10/10, 42 on 4/1, 53 on 25/3 (NA), 75 on 27/5 (AC). Washdyke Lgn and reef, 11 on 9/10 (AC,SB). Timaru Hbr, 2 on 9/10 (AC). [OT] Hoopers Inlet, 2 on 13/6. E Otago Hbr, 4 on 13/6. Otago Hbr LPG Depot, 3 on 13/6 (LF). Taieri RM, 59 on 23/1, 21 on 23/5 (LF,LJG *et al.*).

Australasian pied stilt *Himantopus himantopus leucocephalus*

[WC] Carters B Rd, Westport, c.40 on 9/7. Karamea, 39 on 19/6 (BJSJ). [CA] Waipara RM, 44 on 14/1 (AC). Ashley Est, 137 + 1F + 1G hybrid on 16/8, 78 on 18/3. L Forsyth, 567 on 30/1. Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, 330 on 25/7. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 637 on 11/10. Harts Crk, L Ellesmere, 110 on 27/12. Timberyard Pt, L Ellesmere, 281 on 27/12. Drain Rd, L Ellesmere, 329 on 28/2 (NA). Davidsons Rd, L Ellesmere, 95 on 4/7 (KCH,SP). Johnstons Bay, 484 on 7/3 (AC). Avon-Heathcote Est, 140 on 21/5 (NA). Ashburton RM, 42 on 28/2. Spider Lgn, Sth Canterbury, 57 on 28/3. Opihi RM, 44 on 28/3 (AC), Washdyke Lgn, 219 on 9/10 (AC,SB). [OT] Aramoana, 12 on 13/6. Papanui Inlet, 45 on 13/6. Hoopers Inlet, 183 on 13/6. E Otago Hbr, 13 on 13/6 (LF). Taieri RM, 17 on 23/1 (LF,LJG).

Black stilt *Himantopus novaeseelandiae*

[CA] Ashley Est 2 black/smudgy on 17/8 (TC). Wolfes Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 H + 1 F + 1 G hybrids on 30/8, 12/9. Embankment Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 H hybrid on 26/9 (NA). The Levels, Timaru, 1 on 14/3 (KG).]

NZ dotterel *Charadrius obscurus*

[SO] Awarua Bay Sth, 31 on 20/7, 28 on 19/8, 46 on 25/5, 31 on 13/6, feeding on mudcrabs and 50-60 mm flounders on 20/7, flounders were "guttled" by pecking before being swallowed whole (WC), 1 on 21/1 (K&JVM). Tiwai Spit, 4 on 22/5. Mason Bay, Stewart I, 55 on 15/5 (LE). Doughbouv Bay, 1 on 6/3 (DB).

Banded dotterel *Charadrius bicinctus*

[MA] Kaikoura B, 13 on 9/6 (PC). [WC] Kongahu Est, 22 on 19/6. Arahura RM, 12 on 19/6 (BJSJ). [CA] Waipara RM, 71 on 6/3 (SB). Ashley Est/Saltwater Crk, 58 on 2/1. Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, 106 on 25/7 (NA). Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 1109 on 28/3 (NA), 978 between Jarvis Rd and LII on 16/1 (AC,SB). Ohau Tarns, 210, postbreeding flocking on 5/1 (AC). [OT] All Day Bay, 6 on 4/4. Falls Dam, 48 incl 12 juvs on 27/12. Waianakarua Est, 1 on 5/4. Katiki B, 6 juvs on 5/4 (K&JVM). Aramoana, 15 on 13/6 (LF). [SO] Awarua Bay E, 48 ad & 7 juv on 3/1 (K&JVM).

Black-fronted dotterel *Charadrius melanops*

[CA] St Annes Lgn 2 on 26/10 (TC). Waipara RM, 7 on 6/3 (SB). Coopers Lgn, 3 on 26/7 (NA). Spider Lgn, Sth Canterbury, 10 on 28/3 (AC). [OT] Outram, 1 on 14/4 (DWG). [SO] Mararoa R, Manapouri, 2 pr nesting in spring (BN).

Wrybill *Anarhynchus frontalis*

[MA] Seal Pt, Kaikoura, 1 on 25/10 (TC). [CA] Conway RM, 3 on 24/10 (SB). Ashley Est/Saltwater Crk, 13 on 16/8, 36 on 4/10, 1 on 22/1, 9/5, 16/5, 27/5, 12/6 (NA). Avon-Heathcote Est, 12 on 30/8, 3 on 2/9. L Ellesmere, 341 on 12/8, 200+ on 1/11, 450 on 24/11, 300+ on 26/11, 43 on 16/1, 100+ on 22/2, 120 on 4/3, 131 on 14/3, 130 on 4/4, 120 on 11/4, 40 on 11/5

(CH), 10 on 2/2 (KCH,SP). Embankment Rd, L Ellesmere, 127 on 7/3 (AC), 181 on 26/3. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 10 on 26/7, 209 on 30/8, 100 on 26/9, 701 on 11/10, 21 on 27/12, 106 on 7/2, 196 on 28/2 (NA). Washdyke Lgn, 29 on 9/10 (AC,SB). Ki-Wainono Lgn, 194 on 6/11 (SB).

Pacific golden plover *Pluvialis fulva*

[WC] Okari Est, 3 on 27/11 (BJSJ). [CA] L Ellesmere, 21 on 14/10, 24 on 1/11, 66 on 13/11, 24/11, 68 on 16/1, 21 on 22/2 (CH), 16 on 4/11 (KCH,SP). Embankment Rd, L Ellesmere, 37 on 16/1 (AC,SB), 1 on 26/3. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 32 on 27/12 (NA). Wolfes Rd, L Ellesmere, 11 on 3/1, 65 on 2/2 (KCH,SP). Ashburton RM, 2 on 9/1 (SB). [SO] Awarua Bay E, flock of 25 on 3/1 (K&JVM), 36 on 13/3, several in full breeding plumage (LE).

Spur-winged plover *Vanellus miles novaehollandiae*

[CA] Ashley Est, 45 on 11/7, 53 on 20/12 (NA). Travis Swamp, 132 on 22/5 (AC). Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 130 on 26/7, 342 on 12/9, 280 on 7/2. Ki-Wainono, 70 on 13/12 (NA). [OT] Castlewood Rd, Otago Pen, pr with new chick on 8/10 (K&JVM). [SO] Supper Cove, Fiordland, 21 on 25/9 (IS). Fortrose, 1 albino on 9/2 (DS).

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

[MA] Seal Pt, Kaikoura, 52 on 24/10 (TC). [CA] Ashley Est, 1 on 27/9. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 9 on 20/11. Greenpark Huts to Jarvis Rd, 2 on 8/11 (NA). Yarrs Flat, L Ellesmere, 1 on 11/11, 3 on 13/11, 19 on 24/11 (CH). [SO] Pig I, Foveaux Str, 200+ in 2 grps flew in from mainland at dusk on 16/12 (WC). Awarua Bay E, max 141 on 2-3/1 (K&JVM).

Lesser knot *Calidris canutus*

[CA] Ashley Est, 9 on 2/1 (NA). Avon-Heathcote Est, 5 on 20/2 (KCH,SP). Southshore Spit tip, 9, 1 with yellow leg flag on 29/11 (SB). Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 33 on 20/11. Wolfes Rd, L Ellesmere, 4 on 26/9 (NA). Washdyke Lgn, 2 on 9/10 (AC,SB). [SO] Awarua Bay E, max 15 on 2-3/1 (K&JVM), 160+ incl 1 with orange flag on 30/1 (WC).

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

[SO] Awarua Bay E, 1 feeding in eel grass with 3 red-necked stints on 2-3/1 (K&JVM), 1 among NZ dotterels on 25/5 (WC).]

Curlew sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

[CA] L Ellesmere, 2 on 19/8, 7 on 4/11, 16 on 2/2 (KCH,SP). Greenpark Huts to Jarvis Rd, L Ellesmere, 13 on 8/11. Jarvis Rd, 13 on 28/2. Embankment Rd, L Ellesmere, 3 on 26/3 (NA). Yarrs Flat, L Ellesmere, 4 on 24/8, 9 on 9/9, 2 on 13/11, 5 on 26/11, 19 on 29/11, 6 on 28/1, 15 on 2/2, 124 on 22/2, 3 on 14/3 (CH).

Stilt sandpiper *Micropalama himantopus*

[CA] Yarrs Flat, L Ellesmere, 1 on 9/9 (TC, CH), 10/9 (KCH,SP), 26/9, 20/11 (NA) accepted by Rare Birds Committee, appears to be the first New Zealand record of this species.

Sharp-tailed sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*

[CA] L Ellesmere, 5 on 2/2 (KCH,SP). Embankment Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 on 1/11. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 7 on 20/11 (NA). Yarrs Flat, L Ellesmere, 5 on 13/11, 3 on 26/11, 6 on 28/11, 29/11, 5 on 2/2 (CH).

Pectoral sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*

[CA] L Ellesmere, 1 on 26/11, 3 on 28/11, 29/11 (CH)

Red-necked stint *Calidris ruficollis*

[CA] L Ellesmere, 6 on 19/8, 24 on 4/11, 46 on 2/2 (KCH,SP).

Embankment Rd, L Ellesmere, 6 on 30/8 (NA), 74 on 16/1 (AC,SB), 41 on 7/3(AC) 34 on 26/3. Jarvis Rd, L Ellesmere, 15 on 7/2, 73 on 29/2. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 17 on 12/9, 35 on 11/10, 81 on 8/11, 79 on 20/11 (NA). Yarrs Flat, max 100 on 2/2 (CH). Washdyke Lgn, 1 on 9/10 (AC,SB). [SO] Awarua Bay E, max 17 on 2-3/1 (K&JVM), 51 on 30/1 (LE).

Eastern curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*

[CA] Saltwater Crk, 1 on 13/9, 2 on 4/10 and until 18/3 (NA). Avon-Heathcote Est, 2 on 20/2 (KCH,SP). [SO] Long Pt, sth coast of Fiordland, 1 on 19-21/1 (IS).

Asiatic whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus variegatus*

[CA] Ashley Est./Saltwater Crk, 1 on 25/7, 9/8, 13/9, 27/9 (NA), 1 on 11/10 (TC), 18/10, 20/12, 28/12 (NA).

American whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus*

[CA] Ashley Est./Saltwater Crk, 1 on 11/7, 2/1, 10/1, 22/1, 21/2, 5/4 (NA).

Eastern bar-tailed godwit *Limosa lapponica baueri*

[WC] Kongahu Est, 100 on 27/11. Okari Est, 93 on 27/11 (BJSJM). [CA] Ashley Est/Saltwater Crk, 208 on 18/10 (NA). Avon-Heathcote Est, 1501 on 12/12 (AC), 1230 on 4/1 (NA), 201 on 21/4, 246 on 27/5, 301 on 12/6. Lyttelton Hbr, 334 on 12/12 (AC). L Ellesmere, 20 on 19/8, 21 on 4/11 (KCH,SP). Wolfes Rd, L Ellesmere, 21 on 30/8. LII RM, L Ellesmere, 34 on 28/2. Embankment Rd, L Ellesmere, 21 on 26/3 (NA). Yarrs Flat, L Ellesmere, max of 112 on 4/3 (CH). Washdyke Lgn, 3 on 9/10 (AC,SB). [OT] Aramoana, 23 on 13/6. Papanui Inlet, 88 on 13/6. Hoopers Inlet, 112 on 13/6 (LF). Blueskin Bay, 40 on 15/9, 60 on 18/9 (DJO). [SO] Waikawa Hbr, 1 flagged bird on 8/2, first flagged bird for SO (DS). Awarua Bay, max 59 on 2-3/1 (K&JVM), 96 on 25/5 (WC).

Hudsonian godwit *Limosa haemastica*

[OT] Aramoana, 1 on 15/11 (PS), 1 on 17/11 (HGS).]

Wandering tattler *Tringa incana*

[CA] Avon-Heathcote Est, Southshore Spit tip roost, 1 on 29/11 (SB).]

Siberian tattler *Tringa brevipes*

[CA] Ashburton RM, 1 on 28/2 (AC). [OT] Catlins L, 1 on 6-7/2 (DSe). [SO] Awarua Bay E, 3 on 30/1 (WC).]

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

[CA] Yarrs Flat, L Ellesmere, 1 on 2/2 (CH).]

Brown skua *Catharacta skua lonnbergi*

[SO] Bench I, Foveaux Str, pr nesting on rock stack on 28/11 (LE). Oreti B, 1 chasing white-fronted tern on 4/1 (PR). Long Pt, Fiordland, 1 on 21/1 (IS).

Arctic skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*

[MA] Off Curious Cove, Mid Channel, Marlborough Sds, 1 on 6/1/98, 1 on 8/1/98, 1 dark phase on 12/1/98. Beatrix Bay, Mid Channel, 1 on 10/1/98. Four Fathams, Mid Channel, 2 dark phase on 18/1/98 chasing white-fronted tern. Long I, 1 light phase on 12/1/98 (BC). [CA] Waipara RM, 1 pale phase on 25/3. Ashley RM, 5, 2 pale imms, 2 dark imms, 1 dark ad on 25/4. Ashworths B, 2 dark birds on 14/2, 1 pale bird on 14/3 (NA). Sth New Brighton Spit, 1 on 21/4. Spider Lgn, Sth Canterbury, 2 on 28/3. (AC). [OT] Kaikorai Est, 2 on 5/12 (LF,LJG). Taiaeroa Hd, 1 on 18/3 (MR). St Clair B, 1 on 18/3. Ocean View B, 1 on 24/12. Brighton, 1 on 29/11 (K&JVM).

Skua sp.

[CA] Waipara RM Beach, 2 chasing white-fronted terns on 6/3 (SB).

Black-backed gull *Larus dominicanus*

[CA] Ashley Est/Saltwater Crk, 576 on 18/4. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 228 on 7/2 (NA). Ashburton R, Sth branch, nr Maori Ls, a colony of about 300 apparently paired but not sitting yet on 30/9, c.450 seen from a distance on 19/11 (PG).

Red-billed gull *Larus novaehollandiae scopulinus*

[WC] Carters B Rd, Westport, c.500 feeding in paddocks on 18/6 (BJSJM). [CA] Avon-Heathcote Est, 235 on 4/1 (NA).

Black-billed gull *Larus bulleri*

[WC] L Ianthe, c.20 on 25/1 (K-JW). [CA] Ashley RM, 193 on 11/7, 97 on 5/9. 67 on 28/12, 56 on 18/3, 59 on 16/5 (NA). Westlake, Halswell, 37 on 22/5 (KCH.SP). L Forsyth, 124 on 30/1, 136 on 27/2. Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, 220 on 30/1. Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 381 on 20/11, 128 on 27/12, 213 on 13/2, 427 on 28/2. Drain Rd, L Ellesmere, 187 on 28/2. Fishermans Pt, L Ellesmere, 70 on 28/2 (NA). Twizel, 10 in town centre on 31/8 (JW). [OT] Papanui Inlet, c.10,000 in early Feb (PS). [SO] Aparima and Oreti Rs, successful breeding season with colonies not flooded this year (JWd).

White-winged black tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

[CA] Coopers Lgn, 2 incl 1 in full breeding plumage on 4/7 (KCH,SP), 1 on 26/7, 2 on 12/9, 26/9, 1/11, 26/11 all in nonbreeding plumage. Rakaia RM, 1 on 3/10 (NA).]

Black-fronted tern *Sterna albostrata*

[CA] Conway RM, 198 on 7/3 (SB). Ashley Est, 20 on 7/6 (OSNZ). Ashley RM, 43 on 4/7, 30 on 5/9, 20 on 16/5, 38 on 12/6 (NA). Harewood, Christchurch, 8 over worked paddocks on 31/10. Avon-Heathcote Est, 3 on 8/6 (NA,PC,DM). L Ellesmere, 10 on 4/3 (KCH,SP). L Emily, 1 on 30/9 (PG). [OT] Aramoana, 12 on 13/6 (LF). [SO] Awarua Bay E, 1 seen to swallow a skink whole on 30/1 (WC). Oreti B, several hundred on 21/2, possibly driven to coast by severe drought inland (LE).

Caspian tern *Sterna caspia*

[WC] Okari Est, 2 on 18/6 (BJSJM). Hokitika RM, 3 on 18/7 (JD). Okarito Lgn, 2 juvs + 1 ad loosely associated with South Island pied oystercatchers on 6/4 (BMcK). [CA] Lyttelton Hbr, 5 on mudflats between Quail I and mainland on 21/3. Reef on Ripapa I, 2 on 1/5 (K-JW). Kaituna Lgn, L Ellesmere, 18 on 19/11. Wolfes Rd, L Ellesmere, 13 on 20/11 (NA), 8 on 3/1 (KCH,SP). Greenpark Sands, L Ellesmere, 22 on 7/2 (NA). Ashburton RM, 10 on 28/2. Opihi RM, 8 on 28/3 (AC). Tekapo R census, 21+ on 28/12 (AC,SB). [OT] Waianakarua Est, 1 ad + 1 juv on 5/4 (K&JVM). Moeraki Boulders B, 1 on 8/6 (AW). Aramoana, 13 on 13/6 (LF). Papanui Inlet, 15 on 1/3. Hoopers Inlet, 4 on 27/3 (AW), 5 on 13/6 (LF). Taieri RM, present on 23/5 (LF *et al.*). [SO] Kennington, 1 on 28/10, unusually far inland (PMcC).

White-fronted tern *Sterna striata*

[MA] Okukari Bay, Tory Channel, c.40 on 19/9/97. E Hd Rocks, entrance Tory Channel, 100+ on 19/9/97 (BC). [WC] Oparara RM, 175 nests on 27/11. Okari RM, c.50 on 18/6 (BJSJM). Taramakau RM, c.200 on 19/6. Arahura RM, c.100 on 19/6. Hokitika RM, c.150 on 18/7 (JD). [CA] Conway RM, 50 on 7/3. Hurunui RM, 77 on 7/3 (SB). Waipara RM, 480 on 14/1 (AC). Ashley RM, 252 on 5/9, 525 on 26/10, 347 on 28/12, 448 (only 1 young) on 10/1, 266 on 13/2 (42 young – 20%), 325 on 16/5 (NA). Waimakariri R, 82 ads at colony on riverbed 2.1 km above motorway bridge on 14/1. Armagh St, Christchurch, 2 flying SW to NE over central city on 30/1 (AC). Camp Bay, Lyttelton Hbr, 75 on 31/10, appeared to be preparing to nest on gently sloping rock face. E end Quail I, 38 birds + 26 nests in colony on cliffs on 13/11 (K-JW).

Fishermans Pt, L Ellesmere, 125 on 1/11, 150 on 2/5 (NA). Ashburton RM, 108 on 28/2 (AC).

[White-capped noddy] *Anous tenuirostris*

[NE] Tahunanui B, Nelson, 1 found alive on 13/10, died that day (PDG).]

NZ pigeon *Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*

[MA] Motuara I, 4 on 30/7/97. Blumine I, 1 on 31/7/97 (BC). [CA] Okuti V, 3 on 22/10 (KCH,SP). [OT] Swampy Summit, 4 flying at 650 m asl on 25/4 (K&JVM). Wakari, flights of 35 and 21 on 31/10, 86 over 1 hr on 1/11 (JAW).

Sulphur-crested cockatoo *Cacatua galerita*

[CA] Prices V, 17 on 9/8, 19 on 30/4 (SB).

South I kaka *Nestor meridionalis meridionalis*

[MA] Davies Bay, seen on 2/7/97. Kenepuru Scenic Reserve, 2 by hut in April 1998 (BC). [CA] Lower Hope V, Lewis Pass, 1 on 20/6 (NA). [SO] L Innes, Fiordland, commonly heard, max 6 on 12/12, much more common than on Fiordland coast. Waitutu R, fairly prominent, feeding on green *Nothofagus* seeds on 27-28/1. Kiwi Burn & Gold Burn, good numbers on 13-21/1. Waikoau R, occasional single birds heard on 22-26/2 (IS). Halfmoon Bay, Stewart I, common and noisy, max 18 in flock on 14/11 (LE). North-west Circuit, almost absent except around Halfmoon Bay and Port William on 25/11-1/12 (JW).

Eastern rosella *Platyercus eximius*

[OT] Pinehill, Dunedin, 4 on 12/3. Dunedin Botanic Gardens, 2 on 8/7. Alhambra Grounds, 2 on 1/10, 2 on 22/10. Pineapple Trk, 2 on 1/11. Three Mile Hill, 1 on 23/4. Helensburgh, 1 on 24/5 (K&JVM). Wakari, seen throughout yr (JAW). Maori Hill, seen frequently in Jan (LF).

Red-crowned parakeet *Cyanoramphus novaeseelandiae*

[OT] Franks Stm, Catlins, 2 on 4/2 (FS).

Yellow-crowned parakeet *Cyanoramphus auriceps*

[CA] Lower Hope V, Hope/Kiwi Trk, 17 incl 6 in one tree on 20/6 (NA). [OT] Wallis Stm, Catlins, 2 on 4/2 (FS). [SO] Waikaia Forest, 2 on 25/5 (LF).

Parakeet *Cyanoramphus* sp.

[WC] Punakaiki-Pororari Loop Trk, Paparoa NP, 4 on 8/3 probably yellow-crowned parakeets (BJSJ). [SO] Waikoau R, Fiordland, patchy but in good numbers with flocks of 3-4 seen on 22-26/2 (IS).

Shining cuckoo *Chrysococcyx lucidus*

[WC] Punakaiki, first call of spring on 27/9, heard frequently during summer (BJSJ). [CA] Karaki, Waimakariri RM, 1 on the ground on stop bank feeding on insects on 11/10 (JW). Harts Crk, L Ellesmere, 1 on 26/9, 3 on 1/11 (NA). [OT] Waitati, heard on 11/9 (DJO). Broad Bay, heard on 22/1 (AW). Dunedin Botanic Gardens, 1 on 12/11. Pineapple Trk, 1 on 1/11. Sandymount, 1 on 20/10. Castlewood Rd, 1 on 31/10. Greenacres Trk, 1 on 13/12. Northern cemetery, Dunedin, 1 on 22/10. Hazlett Rd, Dunedin, 1 on 2/10 (K&JVM). Signal Hill, 1 on 25/9 (BC). L Holm, Berwick, heard in Nov (AN).

Long-tailed cuckoo *Eudynamis taitensis*

[SO] Milford Sd, most vocal species of bird with several calling on 6/12 (LE).

[Oriental cuckoo] *Cuculus saturatus*

[WC] Arthurstown, nr Hokitika, 1 seen hawking for insects on 13/12 was found dead next day. Mass of bird was very light but otherwise seemed in good condition. To be displayed at Hokitika Museum (PG).]

Morepork *Ninox novaeseelandiae*

[MA] Marlborough Sds, heard on 31/7/97 (BC). [OT] Wakari, Dunedin, heard intermittently throughout yr (JAW). L Holm, Berwick, heard several times in spring (AN).

Little owl *Athene noctua*

[CA] Kaiapoi SP, 1 on 1/2 (AC). Christchurch, University Campus, 1 on 4/6 (OSNZ). L Ellesmere, 1 on 10/9 (KCH,SP). Glen Lyon Rd, Twizel, 2 on 7/1 (AC,SB). [OT] Pateroa, 1 on 14/1 (JAW). Flag Swamp School, 1 on 21/11 (LF). Wakari, Dunedin, heard intermittently throughout yr (JAW). Broad Bay, heard on 23/2 (AW). Saddle Hill, often seen throughout yr (LJG). Allanton, 1 on 6/1 (K&JVM). L Holm, Berwick, seen throughout yr (AN). [SO] SHW nr Waitahuna, 1 on road on 11/12. Gorge Rd, 1 on 26/12. Progress V, 1 heard on 20/2 (BMcK).

[Fork-tailed swift] *Apus pacificus*

[NE] Stoke, 1 singing in flight on 9/4 (JM,PDG).]

NZ kingfisher *Halcyon sancta vagans*

[MA] Ship Cove, 1 on 19/9/97. Drydens Bay, 1 on 19/9/97 (BC). [WC] Okari Est, 18 on 19/6 (BJSJ). [CA] Ashley Est/Saltwater Crk, 26 on 4/7, 12 on 9/5 (NA). L Ellesmere, 2 excavating nest cavity on Colin Hills farm on 18/9 (KCH,SP). [OT] Aramoana, 9 on 13/6. Papanui Inlet, 2 on 13/6. Hoopers Inlet, 1 on 13/6. W Otago Hbr, 1 on 13/6 (LF). L Holm, Berwick, 1 in Jan (AN). Taieri RM, seen on 23/5 (LF *et al.*). [SO] Otways Clearing, Rowallan Forest, 2 territories, 1 nest in rotten *Nothofagus* tree during summer. Thicket Burn, 1 mobbed while beating rifleman against a branch on 21/12. Hd of L Monowai, 3 territories on 13/10. L Monowai outlet, 3+ territories on 12/10 (IS).

South I rifleman *Acanthisitta chloris chloris*

[CA] Conway R, 1 in willows 1 km from mouth on 24/10 (SB). [OT] Larnach Castle, pr in sycamores on 8/11 (K&JVM). Catlins, seen regularly (FS). [SO] Thicket Burn, 1 killed by NZ kingfisher on 21/12 (IS).

Rock wren *Xenicus gilviventris*

[SO] Homer Tunnel, pr building nest beside tunnel, no eggs on 29/11 (KO).

Welcome swallow *Hirundo tahitica neoxena*

[MA] Blumine I, 2 nests on 31/7/97 in old army buildings. Old whaling station, Tory Channel, 1 on 19/9/97. Okukari Bay, 1 on 19/9/97. Kenepuru Flats, 1 on 4/12/97 (BC). [CA] Guys Rd, Yaldhurst, Christchurch, c.60 in grp, c.115 along a wire fence on 22/2, gone a few days later (PG). MacKenzie Basin, becoming increasingly common. Lower Ohau R, flock of 44 on 2/9 (AC,DS). [OT] Mt Buster, Naseby, 1 on 15/1 (JAW). Upper Manuherikia R, 1 on 27/12 (K&JVM). [SO] Makarewa R, nest in overhanging macrocarpa roots in Feb, nesting not often observed in SO (LE).

[Fairy martin] *Hirundo ariel*

[NE] Abel Tasman NP, 5 seen on 27/2 (MC).]

NZ pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

[OT] Shag Pt, several in May (AE). Swampy Summit, 1 on 8/11. Peggys Hill, 1 on 26/7 at 400 m asl (K&JVM). [SO] Robert Crk, Eyre Mts, 21 seen along c.3 km vehicle track on 27/1 (WC). Mt Luxmore, common along exposed tops on 3/4 (LE).

Hedge sparrow *Prunella modularis*

[CA] Crosbie Park, Christchurch, singing on 21/7, fed on sliced bread on 22/7 - 4/8 (PG).

Blackbird *Turdus merula*

[CA] Crosbie Park, Christchurch, song on 17/8, young being fed on 27/12 (PG).

Song thrush *Turdus philomelos*

[CA] Crosbie Park, Christchurch, song on 14/7 (PG).

South I fernbird *Bowdleria punctata punctata*

[OT] Mt Cargill, seen on 27/3. Taieri RM, seen on 23/5 (LF et al.). Ajax Bog, MacLennan R, max 10 on 22/3, first records for Catlins since 1987 (BMCK). [SO] Cattle Spur Trk, Blue Mts, present on 16/2 (MF).

Yellowhead *Mohoua ochrocephala*

[OT] Catlins, seen regularly (FS). [SO] Blue Mts, none recorded in Myles Flat & Chris Rd areas of Beaumont Forest on 4/11, nor Black Gully on 21/10 (WC). Cattle Spur Trk, present on 16/2 (MF). Eyre Mts, not recorded in Acton V or lower catchments of Windley & Cromel Sums on 30/11-4/12. Two successive surveys have failed to find these birds in most suitable habitat so it is likely they have disappeared from Eyre Mts since 1994 (WC). E Branch, Rowallan R, 31 birds in 15 grps & Thicket Burn, 15 birds in 7 grps monitored Oct-Feb. Pourakino Picnic Ground, 1 male with brown creepers on 25/3 (IS).

Brown creeper *Mohoua novaeseelandiae*

[MA] Tawa Bay, seen on 5/6/97. Anakiwa Shelter, heard on 21/10/97. Davies Bay, heard on 21/10/97 (BC). [CA] Okuti V, several seen on 22/10 (KCH,SP). Klondyke Corner, Waimakariri R, 12 on 6/6 (PC). [OT] Waianakarua R, 3 on 3/4. Hawkesbury Lgn, 2 on 5/4 (K&JVM). Taieri RM, seen on 23/5 (LF et al.).

Grey warbler *Gerygone igata*

[OT] Mt Cargill, seen on 27/3. Taieri RM, seen on 23/5 (LF et al.). The Octagon, Dunedin, 3 on 23/6 (JAW).

South I fantail *Rhipidura fuliginosa fuliginosa*

[CA] Twizel, MacKenzie Basin, 2 pied & 1 black in garden on 2/5 (JW). [SO] Rakiura Trk, Stewart I, absent on 14/11 (LE).

South I tomtit *Petroica macrocephala macrocephala*

[MA] Long I, 3+ prs on 6/6/97. Blumine I, 1 on 31/7/97 (BC). [CA] Kennedys Bush, Port Hills, 1 pr close to old quarry on 25/7 (SB). Hawdon V, 1 on 6/6. Klondyke Corner, 2 on 6/6 (OSNZ). [OT] Mt Cargill, seen on 27/3. Taieri RM, seen on 23/5 (LF et al.). Northern cemetery, Dunedin, 1 male on 30/1 (AB).

South I robin *Petroica australis australis*

[MA] Tawa Bay, pr on 30/4/98 (BC). [CA] Hawdon V, 2 on 6/6 (OSNZ). [SO] Waikoau R, Fiordland, widespread and common on 22-26/2. Tutoko V, 6-7 grps of 1-5 birds on 11/4 (IS).

Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis*

[CA] Crosbie Park, Christchurch, feeding young on 21/11, c.50 on 6/6 (PG). [OT] Mt Cargill, seen on 27/3 (LF et al.).

Bellbird *Anthornis melanura*

[CA] Christchurch, unprecedented autumn-winter irruption, birds recorded across city as far as Yaldhurst, Styx Mill, Belfast, Brooklands, & Burwood (AC). [OT] Mt Cargill, seen on 27/3 (LF et al.).

Tui *Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*

[MA] Lazy Fish, 3 feeding on pohutukawa on 6/1/98 (BC). [CA] Mt Pleasant, Christchurch, 2 in early Sept (IG). Hope/Kiwi Track, 2 hrs from SH7, 5 on 21/1. Lower Hope V, 1 on 20/6 (NA). [SO] Long Sound, Fiordland, 1-2 birds on most creek deltas and coastal flats on 2-11/11 (IS). Northwest Circuit, Stewart I, commonly feeding on abundant flax flowers on 25/11-4/12 (JW).

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*

[OT] Moeraki, 12 in May (AE).

Cirl bunting *Emberiza cirlus*

[CA] Halswell Quarry Trk, 1 on 5/1, pr on 16/1 (KCH,SP).

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*

[SO] Invercargill, first heard singing on 8/8. L Orbell, commonest bush bird on 23/1 (LE).

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*

[SO] Invercargill, first heard singing on 8/8 (LE).

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

[CA] Crosbie Park, Christchurch, c.180 on 3/7 (PG).

Redpoll *Carduelis flammea*

[CA] Crosbie Park, Christchurch, c.130 on 3/8, 60 on 17/8 (PG). [OT] Mt Cargill, seen on 27/3. Taieri RM, seen on 23/5 (LF et al.). [SO] Borland Lodge, large numbers in tussock on 9/1 (PR).

House sparrow *Passer domesticus*

[CA] Kinloch Rd, Little River, all white bird on 26/7 (SB).

Australian magpie *Gymnorhina tibicen*

[CA] Kinloch Rd, Little River, 73 in paddocks on 26/7 (SB).

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*

[CA] Barrys Bay, Akaroa Hbr, 3 on 5/4 (AC). [OT] Mareburn, 6 on 25/10. Castlewood Rd, Dunedin, 1 on 12/9 (K&JVM).

Provisional records

Records yet to be referred to the Rare Birds Committee on either Unusual Bird Report or Rare Bird Report forms are included here within square bracket, pending further examination. Such reports are not to be cited as definite records of the taxa concerned. Future reports of the Rare Birds Committee in Notornis should be consulted before reference is made to these records. All records of taxa on the lists published on the Society web page and available from Regional Representatives and Regional Recorders must be submitted for investigation by the Rare Birds Committee before they can be formally accepted and cited.