

CLASSIFIED SUMMARISED NOTES, SOUTH ISLAND

1 July 1987 to 30 June 1988

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Regional Recorders: G. D. Quayle - Nelson, D. J. Onley - West Coast, A. Crossland - Canterbury, T. Hocken - Otago, M. L. Barlow - Southland.

Abbreviations: asl above sea level; ad adult; AF Air Field; B Beach; Crk Creek; E East; Est Estuary; grp group; Hbr Harbour; Hd Head; HQ Headquarters; ha hectare; h hours; I Island; juv juvenile; km kilometres; L Lake; Lgn Lagoon; max maximum; m metres; Mt Mount; NP National Park; Nth North; pr pair; Pen Peninsula; Pt Point; R River; RM River Mouth; Rd Road; SP Sewage Ponds; Sth South; Stm Stream; SF State Forest; V Valley; W West.

GREAT SPOTTED KIWI *Apteryx haastii*

West Coast, locally common, breeding. The usual records from the Charleston area to above the bushline in the Western Paparoas (PG, DJO, KS, RS). Canterbury, occasional records from Arthur's Pass, Bealey, Cox, Hawdon and Poulter Valleys (CFJO'D).

YELLOW-EYED PENGUIN *Megadyptes antipodes*

South East I, 1 on 24/3 (AJDT). Bushey B, Oamaru, 2 on 23/10, 3 on 3/3 (A&TH). Nuggets, Catlins, 1 moulting on 17/2. Papatowai, first-year moulting 5/2 to 1/3; 1 ad in moult on 24/3 (DJO). Ruapuke I at Nth Hd, 1 on 11/2; many tracks in bracken. Island owners report regular breeding at Nth Hd and on offshore islands (MLB). Codfish I, many birds moulting in forest Mar-Apr (JW).

BLUE PENGUIN *Eudyptula minor*

West Coast, common and breeding. Greymouth B, many tracks (CSL). Avon-Heathcote Est, 1 on 18/1 (AC). Chatham I, feathers in cat scat near the Horns on 17/10 (AJDT). Oamaru Hbr, a substantial established colony. Bushey B, Oamaru, White-flipped Penguin outside its range on 8/3 (A&TH).

SOUTHERN CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus*

L McRae, 2 in summer 87/88 (WFC). L Ianthe, 2 pr on 7/8 possibly nesting; 2 on 6/11; 1 on 30/11; 2 on 27/2 (CSL, CJ, CFJO'D). L Wahapo, none on 6/11. L Mapourika, 4 on 6/11. L Paringa and L Moeraki, none on 6/11 (CFJO'D). Canterbury, winter totals in July, Sumner grp 6, Pearson grp 9, Coleridge grp 24, Ashburton grp 46, Alexandrina grp 63, L Ohau 2, lowland Canterbury 21 – total 171. Horseshoe L, Nth Canterbury, 1 on 4/6, gone by 7/6; first record (DGo). L Sarah, 1 on 22/11, 2 on 2/4. L Grasmere, 12 on 21/11, 4 ad, 1 juv on 3/4. L Pearson, 2 pr summer 87/88, 1 pr nested. L Lyndon, 1 juv on 6/6 and 30/4, 1 ad on 9/10 (PAL). L Forsyth, 20 on 23/7, 6 on 27/5 (CFJO'D). L Ellesmere, 1 in March, 1 in May, 1 on 23/7 (CFJO'D); Hart's Crk 1 juv on 8/8 (PAL). L Clearwater, max of 19 ad, 3 juv to May, 26 on 4/6; 30 on 11/6. L Emma, 18 on 25/4 (LA). L Alexandrina, 91, including 12 juv, on 26/2, 84 on 25/4, including 4 juv, 65 on 25/5, 66 on 28/6. L McGregor, 6 on 26/1 (PAL), 5 ad, 3 small chicks on 26/2, 8 ad, 1 juv on 25/4, 5 on 25/5, 4 on 28/6 (SE). L Ohau, 1 on 21/6 (SE). Te Anau, DoC HQ, female and juv feeding near outlet creek on 10/6 (AW).

HOARY-HEADED GREBE *P. poliocephalus*

L McGregor, 1 on 28/6 (SE, DPM, CP, CER).

AUSTRALIAN LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*

Nelson, recorded several times in last 10 years. Druggans Dam, Aorere Goldfields 1 on 9/1 (AB). Present and breeding on St Anne's Lgn, Canterbury, for 10 years, 1 on 24/8 and 11/5 (PAL). Farm pond, Woodchester, Waiau, 1 on 26/12 (LD).

NORTHERN ROYAL ALBATROSS *Diomedea epomophora sanfordi*

Taiaroa Hd, 17 pr each with one egg; raised only 8 young (PS).

BLACK-BROWED MOLLYMAWK *D. melanophrys*

Pitt Strait, Chatham I, 1 ad on 20/10; plumage with relatively white underwings probably subsp. *melanophrys* (ADJT). Sth Hd, Waikawa, 1 on 21/2 (DJO).

YELLOW-NOSED MOLLYMAWK *D. chlororhynchos*

20-40 km off Bank's Pen, 1 ad of subsp. *bassi* on 1/9 (PAL).

BULLER'S MOLLYMAWK *D. bulleri*

Off the Nuggets light scavenging behind fishing boat on 22/3. Sth Hd, Waikawa, Catlins, 1 on 21/2 (DJO).

SHY MOLLYMAWK *D. cauta cauta*

Nuggets, 1 scavenging behind fishing boat on 22/3. Purakaunui B, several 100 on 25/6 (DJO).

SALVIN'S MOLLYMAWK *D. cauta salvini*

Most common *Diomedea* off Bank's Pen on 1/9, 100+ per trawl (PAL). Purakaunui B, 1 on 25/6 (DJO).

GIANT PETREL *Macronectes* sp.

Oamaru Hbr, 12 dark phase, scavenging behind fishing boat on 13/10 (A&TH). Moeraki, 1 exhausted white morph in December, released January (PS). Sth Hd, Waikawa, 1 on 21/2 (DJO).

CAPE PIGEON *Daption capense*

Common around Kaikoura (CFJO'D). Birdling's Flat, Canterbury, 1 in surf zone unusually close to shore on 5/9 (PAL). Oamaru Hbr, 70-80 on 13/10 scavenging behind fishing boat; 2 on 2/12 (A&TH). Purakaunui B, Catlins, 1 on 25/6 (DJO).

MOTTLED PETREL *Pterodroma inexpectata*

Codfish I, 50 study burrows had 21 chicks that had 4-5 weeks until fledging Mar-Apr (JW).

COOK'S PETREL *P. cookii*

Codfish I, 38 study burrows and 24 other burrows had produced 21-23 chicks (fledgling numbers unknown) Mar-Apr (JW).

PRION SP. *Pachyptila* sp.

Chatham I, feathers in cat scat on Sth W Coast on 19/1 (AJDT).

BROAD-BILLED PRION *P. vittata*

Upper Rakaia R, 100 km from sea, 1 flying down river on 16/12 (CFJO'D). Birds also found inland at Fairlie and Mayfield in same month and one in Christchurch city (CFJO'D,DG).

GREY PETREL *Procellaria cinerea*

Manapouri, 1 found by Electricorp staff on 25/5, banded at Te Anau Wildlife Centre and released on Milford Sound (AW).

SOOTY SHEARWATER *Puffinus griseus*

Razorback B, Punakaiki, 5 on 22/12 (DJO). Seal I, Fox R, 27 ad and 2 chicks with several other burrows on 26/1 (KS). Mt One One, Wanganui RM, Sth Westland, c.20 burrows under kiekie. Makawhio Hd, birds flying ashore at dusk in Nov (CFJO'D). Canterbury, Hurunui RM, 53 close inshore on 3/4. Woodend B, c.320 passing offshore per hour on 3/2. Birdling's Flat, 4000+ offshore on 25/4 (AC). Chatham I, a few burrows on Sth W coast on 19/10 (MI,AJDT). L Wainono, common offshore on 2/4 (SE). Catlins, many thousands at Nuggets, 17/2 and 22/3. Papatowai through Feb and Mar until 5/4; and Sth Hd, Waikawa, on 21/2. Only one at Sth Hd on 3/4 (DJO). Manapouri, 1 grounded 22/5, banded and released on L Te Anau. Te Anau, 1 crashed into house window 11 p.m. on 24/5, later died (AW). Codfish I, 50 study burrows had 26 chicks 4-6 weeks before fledging Mar-Apr (JW).

HUTTON'S SHEARWATER *Puffinus huttoni*

Hurunui RM, Canterbury, 124 close inshore on 3/4 (AC).

DIVING PETREL *Pelecanoides urinatrix*

Christchurch, 1 flew into suburban garden on 11/8, released at Taylor's Mistake (CFJO'D). Naseby, Central Otago, 1 dead bird on 19/1, 70 km from coast (PS).

AUSTRALASIAN GANNET *Sula bassana serrator*

Frequently seen feeding in Tasman and Golden Bays. Farewell Spit colonies, c.590 chicks on 2/2 (JMH). Present in small numbers along Canterbury coast from late summer to winter e.g. Gore Bay, 1 on 27/7 (PAL); Waipara RM, 1 juv on 28/8; Ashley Est, 1 on 6/7 (AC), 3 on 4/12; New Brighton B, 2 on 15/5 (PAL); Avon-Heathcote Est, 1 on 8/7 and 29/6; Taylor's Mistake, 15/12 (AC); Birdling's Flat, 1 on 5/9 (PAL); Kaitorete Spit, 1 on 30/8 (AC); L Wainono, 1 juv offshore on 2/4 (SE), 7 ad, 8 juv sitting on water at sea on 26/4 (RM). Otago Hbr, 4 sightings 5-17/4 between Dowling Bay and

Burns Pt (JV&KM). South Otago and Catlins Coasts, breeding at the Nuggets with 5 nests in Jan (PS,KCG); 6 birds remained 22/3. Several records of ad and juv birds along coast up to June (DJO).

BLACK SHAG *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Nelson, frequently seen in coastal areas and in numbers less than 10 from many inland sites (GDQ). Motueka Est, max of 123 on 1/9, 264 on 11/5 (AC). Head of L Rotoiti, c.20 on 3/2 (S&JR). West Coast, small numbers from many coastal sites and less frequently inland e.g. 1 in Waitaha V on 15/6. Max 13 at Karamea on 16/7 with 1 ad gathering sticks and one displaying (CSL). Canterbury, widespread and common. Ashley Est, highest count, 28 on 15/4. Avon-Heathcote Est, winter low of 40, summer high of 190 (AC). L Ellesmere, 63 in May, 19 in Aug, 150 in Feb, 91 in April (CFJO'D). L Clearwater, 50+ on 4/6 (LA).

PIED SHAG *P. varius*

Nelson, groups of up to 8 around coast (GDQ). Rocks Rd, Nelson, 120 with 25 nests in Norfolk pines in Sep (DB), 160+ with 40 nests in June (JMH, KDQ, SW, ZW). West Coast uncommon, Only 1 record compared with 8 last year. Buller R Est, 1 on 23/8 (DJO). Canterbury, now widespread in Pegasus Bay and Bank's Pen during autumn and winter. Expanding range and numbers slowly southwards since early 1980s. Hurunui RM, 22 on 3/4; Waipara RM, 1 on 23/2. Ashley Est, 9 on 6/7, 20 on 14/2, 22 on 5/2, 33 on 15/4. Brooklands Lgn, 19 on 18/2; Avon-Heathcote Est, max of 25 during Mar and April. Port Levy, 1 on 12/3. Lyttelton Hbr, 2 on 14/3 and 22/6. Okain's Bay, 13 on 25/4. Akaroa Hbr, 2 on 12/3 (AC). L Ellesmere, 5 in Aug (CFJO'D).

LITTLE BLACK SHAG *P. sulcirostris*

Seen frequently in Motueka, Waimea and Nelson Estuaries in summer months in groups of up to 10. Motueka Est, 10 on 15/5 (JMH). Barrytown, 1 on 2/2, the first West Coast record (CJ).

LITTLE SHAG *P. melanoleucos*

Nelson, frequently seen, particularly Waimea and Motueka Est. Rocks Rd, Nelson, 60+ roosting with Pied Shags in Norfolk pines in June (JMH,KDQ,SW,ZW). West Coast, many records of small numbers at coastal and inland sites. Max Karamea, 10 on 12-13/3; Okari, 10 on 16-17/2, Mikonui Est, 24 on 15/6 (CSL,CJ,DJO). Canterbury, common. Ashley Est, max 19 on 14/12. Brooklyn's Lgn 11 on 18/2, 22 on 4/5. Avon-Heathcote Est, winter low of 20, summer peak of 120, small numbers in Christchurch City, Victoria L, 2 on 20/3; L Bryndwr, 4 on 13/4; the Groynes, 2 on 21/6. Lyttelton Hbr, 62 on 13/5. Akaroa Hbr, 63 on 12/3 (AC). L Ellesmere, max 76 in Feb (CFJO'D). L Clearwater, max 60 on 30/7. L Emma 28 on 25/7 (LA). L Alexandra, 23 on 19/7 (BHS). Otago Hbr, 178 roosting between Anderson's Bay and Taiaroa Hd on 27/8 (JV&KM).

STEWART ISLAND SHAG *Leucocarbo carunculatus chalconotus*

Waitaki RM, single bronze morph on 15/3 (A&TH). Oamaru breakwater, 3 on 23/6 (CFJO'D). Nth of Kakanui, 1 pied morph on 4/3 (A&TH); Nth of usual range.

SPOTTED SHAG *Stictocarbo punctatus*

Tasman Bay present in 2-3 thousands during winter. Smaller numbers

in Golden Bay. Several roosts alongside coastline (GDQ). West Coast, locally common. Perpendicular Pt, Punakaiki, c.300 at colony on 18/6 with no obvious breeding. By 7/9, c.175 active nests (CSL,DJO). Ten-mile Crk (Nth of Greymouth), 4 visible nests and c.10 birds – no active nests on 24/8 (CSL). Small numbers along the coast with max of 15 at Buller Breakwater in Nov and Dec (DJO). Canterbury, flocks occasionally at river mouths e.g. Ashley Est, c.80 on 4/12; Waimakariri RM, c.150 on 7/5. Many thousands nesting around Bank's Pen, Tumbledown Bay c.100 nesting on 13/11 (PAL). Magnet Bay, c.240 on 25/4 (AC). Oamaru Hbr, c.30 to many hundreds roosting (A&TH). Nuggets, Sth Otago, c.500 on 17/2, c.1700 on 22/3 (DJO).

WHITE-FACED HERON *Ardea novaehollandiae*

West Coast, widespread records of small numbers. Max 23 at Karamea on 12-13/3 (CSL). Okari Lgn, 31 on 16-17/2 (CJ). Canterbury, common. Waipara RM, 11 on 21/2. Ashley Est, max 34 on 14/12. Brooklyns Lgn, 36 on 18/2. Avon-Heathcote, max 110 in July. Lyttelton Hbr, max 72 on 17/2. Akaroa Hbr, 94 on 12/3 (AC). L Ellesmere, max 368 in Feb (CFJO'D). Mangere I, Chatham grp, 1 or 2 seen 6 times 20/10-24/3 (AJDT,PMcC). Waikouaiti, Otago, nest in grass on ground (PW). Catlins Lgn, max 35 on 11/6 (DJO). Ruapuke I, 4 on 11/11 (MLB).

WHITE HERON *Egretta alba*

Nelson, arrive on estuaries in Jan e.g. Rangihueta Est, 1 on 21/1 (EN); Riwaka, 1 on 13/1 (AC); Waimea, 2 on 28/1 (JB). Golden Bay and Tasman Bay, max of 5 in June census; have been decreasing over last 2 years (GDQ). Wairau Lgn, 1 early 1988 (BN). Nth Westland, Blaketown and L Ryan on 4/7. Karoro, 1 flying south on 27/7. Orowaiti Est, 1 last seen on 30/7. Last Blaketown record for spring on 1/8 (CSL,DJO,KS). Inangahua Junction, 1 on 23/8. Black's Point, Reefton, 1 on 27/8 (PG,RL). Last spring records; Cobden, 1 on 5/9 (CSL) and Charleston, 1 on 6/9 (DJO). No records outside the breeding area at Okarito during Oct, Nov, Dec. At Okarito colony, 60 adults built 50 nests and raised 25 chicks (DoC). First record of post-breeding dispersal was Blaketown Lgn on 23/1 (CJ), over a month later than last year. Orowaiti, 1 had returned by 18/2, with 3 on 18/6 (CSL,DJO,KS). Other Feb records: Bassett's wetland, 1 on 18/2; Cobden, 1 on 19/2; Okari, 1 on 16-17/2 (CJ). Widespread West Coast records from March onwards: Oparara 1 on 13/3; Karamea 1 on 12-13/3; Blaketown Lgn, 1 on 20/3, 2 on 12/4, 1 on 11/5; Cobden Lgn, 1 on 9/6, 1 on 11/5, 1 on 9/6; L Ryan, 1 on 11/5, 1 on 18/6; Bradshaw's Lgn, 1 on 21/3; L Kaniere, 1 on 27/3; Harihari, 1 on 2/4; Mahitahi R, 3 on 3/4; L Moeraki, 1 on 1/3 (PG,CJ,CSL,DJO,KS,RS). Canterbury, Avon-Heathcote Est, 1 until late Sep, returned by mid-Jan (AC). Barry's Bay, Akaroa Hbr, 1 as late as 26/10 (PAL). Ashley Est 1 on 15/4 (AC). L Ellesmere, 3 in Aug, 1 in Feb and 11 in Apr (CFJO'D). L Wainono, 1 remained through summer and autumn (SE,RM,A&TH). Ohau R delta, 1 on 6/4 and 22/4 (SE). North Otago, regular winter population of at least 3 in Oamaru gardens, harbour, lagoons and estuaries (ARB,A&TH). Last record 27/10; first return 25/12 (A&TH). Waikouaiti Lgn, 3 records Feb-Apr (A&TH,PS) including 2 birds on 15/2 being aggressive towards each other (JAW). Berwick, 1 on 7/8 (PS). Kakanui Est, 1 on 11/6 (A&TH). Waituna Lgn, Southland, 1 intermittently all year July-June (Ray Waghorn). Lower Maitaia R, 1 between 22/10 and 21/12,

again on 18/1, possibly same bird as at Waituna (SLL). Clearly some birds spend summer on the East Coast, not returning to the Okarito colony. Invercargill Est, 1 on Waihopai arm on 27/9; 1 opposite Kew Rd on 30/4 (MLB).

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta*

Regularly from Nelson and West Coast regions. Waimea Est, Rough I, 1 on 18/9, (JB) and 1 in June census. Karamea 1 until 8/8 (PG). Buller RM, 1 on 23/8. Orowaiti, 1 throughout July,, last seen 23/8 (DJO). Seen again on 18/2 (KS), 1 on 22/3 (CJ) and possibly 2 on 18/6 (CSL).

REEF HERON *Egretta sacra*

Nelson, not often seen and usually in Golden Bay. Collingwood, 1 on 10/5. Pohara, 1 on 6/9 and 28/12 (AC). Marahau, 1 on 25/10 (GDQ). Riwaka RM, 1 on 13/1 (AC). Motueka Est, 1 in August (GDQ). Nelson Hbr and Haven, 1 during winter and Sep-Oct (DB,JMH,GDQ). Nuggets, Sth Otago, 1 on 22/3 (DJO).

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis*

Nelson, occurs in certain localities from April to Nov. Takaka, max 48 in Aug (KES). Tasman Bay, max 47 on 22/8 (GDQ). Last spring record, Appleby, 10 on 15/11 (GDQ). Grovetown, c.10 in early May (BN). Karamea, 30 on 16/7 increased to 43 by end of month; reduced to 30 on 23/8 (CSL,RL). Orowaiti, 51 on 13/7, 43 on 23/8 and 38 on 28/10 (DJO). Only 2 spring-summer records: Buller R, Westport, 4 on 23/12, 2 of which were in full breeding plumage (DJO). Arahura, 11 on 3/8 and 7/8 (CSL). There were few records for 1988. First autumn record was Harihari, 1 on 2/4. Haast, 5 on 4/4 (CJ). Arahura, 1 on 19/4, 5 on 5/5 but had left by 6/6 (CSL,FO). Karamea, 7 on 18/6 (RL,DR). Waikuku, Canterbury, 27 on 25/7 (RM); 28 on 28/8 (AC). Barry's Bay, Akaroa Hbr, 3 on 5/9 (PAL). L Ellesmere, 11 at Embankment Rd on 5/7 (PAL); 39 stayed for summer near Selwyn R but only 35 remained in April (CFJO'D). Otago, regional max 137 on 23/8, with 60 on Taieri Plain and 57 at Balclutha (PS *et al.*). First record for 1988, 2 on 18/4, with 6 on 24/4 (PS). Catlins Lgn, 1 on 9/5 (DJO). Underwood, Southland, 10 on 2/5 (OJL). Seaward Downs, 20 on 2/5 (MLB). Thornbury, 30+ on 22/5 (OJL). Bay Rd, Invercargill, 2 on 25/5 (MLB).

NANKEEN NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax caledonicus*

Pateroa, Taieri R, 1 on 18/4 (MW)

AUSTRALASIAN BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris*

Nelson, rarely seen. Wakapuaka, 1 on 15/11 (KDQ). Karamea, 1 on 16/7 (CSL). Flowery Crk (Arahura), 1 on 28/7 and 10/8 (RS). Little Wanganui, 2 in wet pasture on 21/11 (CSL). Despite surveying many West Coast wetlands, only 1 seen, Bassett's wetland on 18/2 (CJ). Hart's Crk, L Ellesmere, 1-2 in raupo booming on 8/8, 3 booming on 19/9 (PAL). Washdyke Lgn, 1 on 21/9 (RM). Ahuriri R, 1 flying from a swampy stream was chased by a Harrier and forced to land on 31/5 (SE). L Waiholo, 1 on 15/3 (PS). Tokomairiro RM, 1 on 24/4 (PS). Papatowai, Catlins, 1 on 18/4 (DJO). Sandy Pt gravel pits, Southland, 1 on 29/1 (RRS).

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus*

L Waiholo, 1 seen several times in July (PS). Ruapuke I, 1 on 10/11 at Moana Putakitaki Lgn. Not seen on next visit on 11/2 (MLB).

ROYAL SPOONBILL *Platalea regia*

Nelson, a regular visitor in winter months. Earliest autumn record, Farewell Spit, 4 on 23/3 (EN). Golden Bay, max 33 in June census. Motueka Est, 28 in June census. Rough I, Waimea Est, 29 on 19/9 (JB). Wairau Lgn, 73 in early 1988 (BN). Buller R Est, of 2 that arrived in Feb 1987, 1 remained until 23/8; 3 returned on 24/2 (DJO,KS). Oparara, 4 on 23/8 and 2 on 18/6 (RL,DR). Okarito, 18 adults built 6 nests but raised no young (DoC). Canterbury, present autumn to spring. Often move between Avon-Heathcote Est, Bromley SP and L Ellesmere. Avon-Heathcote area, 15 through July, 16 on 16/8, but only 8 by 27/9. Absent during Oct until 2 on 28/10, then 5 on 27/11. Absent Dec, 3 in Jan, 2 in Feb, then absent until 5 on 26/2. Increasing through March to 18 on 1/4, 25 on 24/4, 29 in May, falling to 17 on 24/6 (AC,KCH). L Ellesmere, 1 in Aug (CFJO'D); 8 at Kaituna Lgn on 26/10 (PAL); 21 on 24/1 (KCH); 13 in Feb and 16 in April (CFJO'D). Ashburton R, 1 on braided river on 24/10 (CFJO'D). Normanby, Timaru, 3 on 2/4 (SE). Breeding continued at Maukieke I, Moeraki, with 52 birds on 13/1 (WJC). Entire group of 52 at Karitane and Waikouaiti on 13/3 (A&TH,PS,JAW). This record indicates that birds in Canterbury in Jan and Feb must come from elsewhere. Less frequent in Nth Otago than previous years. Bowalley, 5 on 7/2. Kakanui Est, 2 on 12/4 (A&TH). Riverton Est, 1 on 21/11 (OJL).

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*

Waipara RM, 2 on 28/8. Bromley SP, 1-3 April to June (AC). L Ellesmere, numbers continue to decrease, 23 in Aug, 2 in Feb, and 21 in April (CFJO'D). Ohau R delta, 2 from 6/4 to 7/6. Tekapo R, 2 on pond 16/6 (SE). Eglinton V, Deer Flat, 2 on tarn 20-24/9 (KM).

BLACK SWAN *C. atratus*

West Coast, locally common and breeding. Recorded from Break Crk, Oparara, Karamea, Buller R Est, Okari, Barrytown, Cobden, L Ryan, Blaketown, L Karoro, Range Crk, L Poerua, L Ianthe, L Wahapo, Okarito, L Paringa, L Moeraki. Karamea Lgn, max 60 on 12-13/3 (CJ). Canoe Crk, max 34 on 7/9 (DJO). Cobden Lgn, max 22-25, Oct-Nov and 29 in July. Otherwise less than 10 (PG,CJ,CSL,RS). Canterbury, max numbers occur on L Ellesmere with 8487 in Aug, 10 385 in Feb and 8733 in April (CFJO'D). Widespread elsewhere: Conway RM, 30 on 26/6 (JC); Waipara RM, 41 on 28/8; L Bryndwr, 6 on 13/4; Bromley SP, max 742 on 1/6; Akaroa Hbr, 10 on 12/3 (AC); L Clearwater, max 91 on 30/4; L Roundabout, 62 on 25/4; L Emma, 350 on 25/4 (LA); L Alexandrina, 74 on 19/7 (BHS). Oamaru, Fortification Rd, 92 on 2/8. Papanui Inlet, Otago Pen, 27 on 26/7 (A&TH). Kaikorai Est, pr with 4 juv on 18/10. Catlins Lgn, max c.50, Feb to June (DJO). Ruapuke I, 7 ad, 2 broods of 4 and 6 on 11/11 (MLB).

CANADA GOOSE *Branta canadensis*

West Coast, now occur widely in low numbers. Oparara Lgn, 3 on 11/3 (CJ). Mokihinui Est, 3 on 17/7 and 2 on 12/12 (DJO). Canoe Crk, Barrytown, 14 on 30/7 included 5 with neck collars that were banded there on 15/1/87 and 2 with collars banded at L Grasmere (Canterbury) in 1984 (DJO); 12 on 21/11 (PG,RS). L Poerua, 2 on 8/10. Dead birds at Greymouth B on 6/7 and 1/4 and at Canoe Crk on 30/7 (CSL, DJO). Canterbury. Max numbers occur at L Ellesmere with 12 096 in Aug, 9791 in Feb and 7822 in April

Mackenzie Basin, main concentration at L Alexandrina: 1605 on 19/7 (BHS), 838 on 26/2, 1253 on 25/4, 1281 on 25/5, 1087 on 28/6. Also L Tekapo, 15 on 15/2 (SE); L McGregor, 110 on 26/1 (PAL), 130 on 26/2, 196 on 25/4, 88 on 25/5, 227 on 28/6. Mailbox Inlet, 10 on 23/2, 27 on 9/6, 10 on 22/6; L Murray, 50 on 23/2; Godley R delta, 50 + on 3/5, 50 on 9/6; 30 + on 23/6; Tasman R delta, 16 on 5/4, 20 on 2/6; Ohau R delta, 2 on 25/3; Homestead Tarn, 57 on 4/3, 39 on 28/3, 37 on 12/4, 12 on 1/6; L Wairepo, 12 on 1/6 (SE). L Waipori, Berwick, 5 on 8/8 (A&TH). Waipori wetlands, 24-26 until 1/5 (HAS).

AUSTRALASIAN HARRIER *Circus approximans*

West Coast, numerous records from agricultural land and wetland areas. Courtship and display observed, Greymouth, on 29/9 and 2/10. Greymouth, 1 caught a starling in flight on 8/12. Cobden Lgn, 1 roosting with 8 ducks and their young on 19/2 (CSL). Reefton, 1 almost white bird on 28/10 (PG,RS). Canterbury and Otago, large concentrations seen in autumn and winter. Brooklands Lgn, 13 on 4/5. Avon-Heathcote Est, c. 20 during winter (AC). L Ellesmere, 1 in Aug, 9 in Feb, building up to 21 in April (CFJO'D). L Pukaki spillway, 35 circling in July (DPM,CER). Papatowai, c.40 on 25/4 and 10 on 26/4 out at sea flying south (DJO). Mangere I, Chathams, several Broad-billed Prions eaten on 16/3 and 21/3, 1 pipit eaten on 10/3 (AJDT). Ruapuke I, at least 4 on 11/11. Waihopai R at North Rd bridge in Invercargill Est, a pr nested and raised 1 chick (MLB).

NEW ZEALAND FALCON *Falco novaeseelandiae*

Mt Arthur, Salisbury hut, 1 on 15/1 (JR,SR). West Coast fewer records than last year. Charleston, 1 on 30/4 (KS). Marsden, near Greymouth, 1 attacking chickens during July and Aug (BMcA). Big R, Inangahua, 1 on 16/8 (PC). Canterbury, all high country records. Dashwood Pass, 1 chasing a Harrier on 31/8 (AC). Ada Pass, 1 found dead on 19/12. Boyle Huts, Lewis Pass, 1 on 7/6 (AC,DG). Sherwood Station, Waiau, 1 on 8/12 (PAL). Oxford SF, 2 in beech forest canopy in Aug (JW). L Lyndon, 1 on power pole above road on 18/7; 1 chased by 2 Keas on 29/8 (PAL). Maitland V, 1 on 21/2 and 27/3 in mountain beech. South Temple Stm, 2 heard on 27/2. Temple Stm gorge, 1 sitting on trig on 28/4. L Ohau Rd, 1 on side of road pecking at possible road kill on 28/3. Twizel, 1 at Black Stilt aviary on 8/6. Upper Ahuriri R, 1 on 30/3 (SE). Hollyford Valley Rd, 1 soaring or being chased by a Kea or Kaka on 21/11 (BHS). Cascade Crk, 1 with what looked like a Silvereye in its talons (SC). Henley, 1 on 30/3 (PS).

NANKEEN KESTREL *F. cenchroides*

Christchurch, Riccarton Race Course, 1 during May (DH).

CALIFORNIA QUAIL *Lophortyx californica*

Kaiata, 1 with young on 28/10 (PG,RS). First West Coast record since Nov 1985. Otago, widespread records; Waitaki RM, pr on 2/12 (A&TH); Whare Flat, Dunedin, 2 on 3/2, Outram Glen, 19 on 2/3 (PS); Puketeraki 1 on 3/2 and 5/10 in the small residential area (JAW).

BANDED RAIL *Rallus phillippensis*

Pakawau, 1 in full breeding plumage with 5 chicks on main road (FN,SN).

WESTERN WEKA *Gallirallus australis australis*

Golden Bay, and Abel Tasman NP, usual widespread records. Cobb V, 1 on 23/1 (JR,SR). West Coast, many records Nth of Taramakau R. Otherwise a few records just Sth, mainly along State Highway: 1 dead, Kumara on 8/10; 1 dead, Okuku SF on 16/10, 2 on 7/12; 1 dead at Wainihinihi on 20/10 (CSL); L Kaniere, 1 on 30/1 and 27/3. More southerly records: Ianthe SF, pr on 27/2 (CJ); site of a small population for some time; Makawhio SF, 1 on 6/11 (CFJO'D).

MARSH CRAKE *Porzana pusilla*

Gibson's Crk, Marlborough, 1 in 1988 (BN). Westport, O'Malley's Dredge, 1 or 2 on 24/3 (CJ). L Sarah, 1 on 3/4 (PAL). Southland, McLeod's Lgn, Thomson's Crossing, 1 in flight on 2/5 (RRS). Thornbury, footprints on snow-covered log in known territory on 23/5. Prints measured c.50 mm ("heel" to tip of mid toe); width at tip of lateral toes c.30 mm (OJL).

SPOTLESS CRAKE *P. tabuensis*

Westport, Bassett's wetland, 2 on 19/2, 1 or 2 on 18/2 (CJ).

PUKEKO *Porphyrio porphyrio*

West Coast, common and breeding (DJO). Canterbury, Brooklands Lgn, 163 on 4/5. Eastern Christchurch, winter population of c.850-1000 with Bromley SP, c.400; Travis swamp, c.300; Ferrymead-Heathcote V, c.150; and low numbers in Woolston and Bexley (AC). L Ellesmere, much lower numbers in recent years; e.g. 128 in Aug, 53 in Feb and 159 in April (CFJO'D). Bay Rd, Invercargill, flock changes through year: 212 on 4/7; 402 on 6/7; 398 on 25/7; 280 + on 7/8 and 8 on nearby paddocks, 240 on 14/8 and 60 nearby, 10 on 10/12, nil until 13/5 when there were 8, 91 on 21/5, 133 on 25/5, 227 on 5/6, 212 on 28/6 (MLB).

AUSTRALIAN COOT *Fulica atra*

Druggan's Dam, Aorere Goldfields, 1 on 9/1 (AB). Becoming well established around Christchurch. Kaiapoi Gravel Pits, 4 on 1/6. L Bryndwr, 6 on 13/4, 8 on 21/6, breeding within metropolitan area. Bromley SP, 1 in Aug, Sep and Feb (AC). L Heron, 134 in July (DG). L McGregor, 11 on 26/12, 9 on 25/4. L Alexandrina, 17 on 25/4 (SE). Max 26 in April (DoC). Pond with raupo near Otematata, 1 on 5/3 (SE). Waipori Wetlands, max 7 through May and June (HAS).

SOUTH ISLAND PIED OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus ostralegus finschi*

Nelson, same distribution and concentrations as last year. West Coast, small numbers from many coastal estuaries. Main concentrations were Karamea, 148 in March; Oparara, 50 + in March; Okari, 80 in Aug, 138 in Nov, c.700 in Feb, c.275 in June, and Orowaiti, 109 in July, 46 in Aug, 52 in Nov, 100 in Dec, 400 in Jan, 376 in Mar, 92 in May, 110 in June. Westport AF, c.100 on 18/6 was unusual. Pairs were seen at suitable breeding sites inland at Hokitika Gorge Rd on 7/8, Waitaha V on 7/8, Hurley's Crk, Sth Westland on 30/11 and Canoe Crk on 7/9 (PG, CJ, CSL, RL, DJO, KS, RS). Canterbury, Conway RM, 4 on 26/6 (JC). Ashley Est, max 285 on 6/7, Brooklands Lgn, 217 on 18/2, 261 on 4/5. Avon-Heathcote Est, max 4810 on 6/5. Lyttelton Hbr, max 744 on 13/5. Port Levy, 102 on 13/2. Pigeon Bay, 30 on 12/3. Okain's Bay, 26 on 25/4. Akaroa Hbr, 563 on 12/3 (AC). L Ellesmere, 114 in Aug (CFJO'D), 3 on 12/12 (PMS), 26 in Feb (CFJO'D).

L Wainono, 94 on 19/9, 107 on 1/11 (RM). Waitaki RM, c.60 on 8/9; Papanui, Otago Pen, 150 on 26/7 (A&TH). Cabbage Pt, Catlins, 605 on 13/3. Catlins Lgn, 1000 + on 22/2, 605 on 13/3, 390 on 12/6, 200 + on 25/6. Papatowai, 72 in Feb, 64 in March, 48 in April, 35 in May, 8 in June. Waikawa Hbr, 220 on 10/1, 515 on 31/1 (DJL), c.900 on 21/2 (DJO). Southland summer census, 2825 + on 21/11 (WJC). Thornbury, 2 on territory in same farm paddock from late April; courtship flight on 28/6 (OJL).

VARIABLE OYSTERCATCHER *H. unicolor*

Nelson, widespread around coast and estuaries. Motueka Est, max 56 on 11/1 (AC). Nelson Haven, winter numbers appear to be increasing, max c.60 in April (JMH). L Grassmere, max 1 Jan-Mar (PSG). West Coast, small numbers reported from many coastal sites. Max: Little Wanganui, 15 on 21/11; Karama, 18 on 12-13/3; Okari, c.15 on 16-17/2; Orowaiti, 14 on 18/6; Jackson's Bay, 20 on 3/4 (PG, CJ, CSL, DJO, KS, RS). Feeding 15 km inland along Paringa R in Nov (CFJO'D). Uncommon in Canterbury. Ashley Est, 1 on 6/7. Avon-Heathcote Est, 1 in July, 2 in Aug, 3 in Sep, 1 from Oct to Dec, absent Jan and Feb, 1 in Mar, 5 in Apr and May including 1 juv and 2 pied birds, 4 in June (AC). Cave Rock, Sumner, 2 on 11/9 (PAL). Lyttelton Hbr, 1 on 14/4 (AC). Otago, widespread but in low numbers. Kakanui Est, 1 pied phase on 13/12 (PS *et al.*), 1 on 7/2, 2 on 12/4 (A&TH). Karitane, 2 pied birds on 24/11 (LE). Otago Pen, 6 at Papanui on 26/7 (A&TH), 3 pr with 5 young and 4 ad at Victory B on 13/12 (JV&KM). Catlins Lgn, max 4 on 3/5. Papatowai, max 8 on 10/4. Waikawa, 9 on 21/2 (DJO).

CHATHAM ISLAND OYSTERCATCHER *H. chathamensis*

Survey during summer 87-88 recorded c.100 birds. Previously the population was thought to number c.50 birds (AG).

SPUR-WINGED PLOVER *Vanellus miles*

West Coast, reports from many coastal agricultural and wetland areas. Max: Orowaiti, c.200 on 18/2 (KS). Canterbury, common throughout. Concentrations included Amberley, c.50 on 11/7 (PAL); Waipara RM, 122 on 28/8, 27 on 21/2; Avon-Heathcote Est, 40-50 present all year; Lyttelton Hbr, max 40 on 26/7; Akaroa Hbr, 50 on 12/3 (AC); L Ellesmere, max 898 in Aug (CFJO'D). Mangere I, Chathams, 2 on 11/10 (PMcC). Ruapuke I, 22 on 11/11 (MLB).

LEAST GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis fulva*

Blaketown-Greymouth AF, 2 on 7/11, 23/1 and 20/3 – only West Coast location where they are regular (CSL). Jarvis Rd, L Ellesmere, 44 on 19/2 (AC). Southland summer census, 145 on 21/11 (WJC). Gorge Rd, 2 wintered on farm paddock, last seen 22/7 (SLL).

NEW ZEALAND DOTTEREL *Charadrius obscurus*

Farewell Spit, only 2 in June census. Wainui, 2 on 18/11 (CMcC). Motueka Sandspit, 1 in breeding plumage on 12/9 (GDQ). Ruapuke I, none found on walk around all coastline, except Sth Hd, and all dunes on 11/11; none found on search of all dunes and coastline excluding Sth Hd and area between Nth Hd and Henrietta Bay on 11/2. Cow I, Awarua Bay, 19 on 15/2, including 1 colour-banded bird (MLB).

BANDED DOTTEREL *C. bairdii*

Nelson, same distribution and concentrations as last year. West Coast, small numbers recorded on coast July-Dec at Break Crk Lgn, Oparara, Karamea, Little Wanganui, Mokihinui, Waimangaroa, Birchfield, Orowaiti, Westport AF, Okari, Pororari, Barrytown, L. Ryan, Blacktown/Grey AF, New R, Taramakau, Arahura, Mikonui, Okarito. Probably bred in many of these places but breeding was proved at Oparara, pr with 2 chicks on 21/11; Mokihinui, 2 prs; Birchfield, 3 prs; North Beach, Westport, 15-20 prs; Pororari, 3 prs; Canoe Crk, Barrytown, 2 prs. 50 + birds including 30 juv at North Beach on 15/12 had decreased to 10 by 26/1. Subsequently numbers increased at several estuaries: Greymouth AF, 24 on 23/1, 32 on 20/3; Oparara, 12 on 11/3; Karamea Lgn, 15 + on 12-13/3; Orowaiti, 25 on 22/3; Okari, 40 on 16-17/2; Barrytown, 30 + on 2/2; Okuru, 17 on 14/4; 17 were still at Blaketown Lgn on 9/6 (DJO *et al.*). Canterbury, common breeding bird on all braided rivers from Conway R to Waitaki R including MacKenzie Basin. Concentrations occur near coast mainly in autumn. Waipara RM, 67 on 28/8 (AC), 12 on 26/6 (JC). Ashley Est, 102 on 5/2. Brooklands Lgn, 29 on 18/2. Avon-Heathcote Est max 144 on 1/5. Lyttelton Hbr, max 62 on 26/7 (AC). L Ellesmere, 898 in Aug (CFJO'D), 222 on 12/12 (PMS), c.2900 on 19/2 denoted max during migration (AC). Numbers declined to 459 in April once most birds had left (CFJO'D). Ashburton R census 387 lowest count in 7 years on 24/10 (CFJO'D). Washdyke Lgn, 6 on 29/9 (BHS). L Wainono, 70 on 1/5, c.30 on 17/5. Oamaru, Fortification Rd, max 9 in June (A&TH). MacKenzie Basin, common on braided riverbeds in summer. Generally rare in autumn and winter after migration but a small number remain. Max 150 on Godley R delta on 3/4, 50 on 9/6, 100 + on 23/6. Otherwise usually single birds on Twizel playing fields on 22/3; Tasman R delta on 25/3, 5/4 but 40 + on 2/6; Ohau R delta on 25/3, 6/4, 1/6; Hopkins/Dobson R delta on 5/4; Mick's Lgn on 22/6 and frozen Homestead Tarn on 1/6 (SE). Otago regional survey, 252 on 13/3 (PS *et al.*). Karitane Est, 1 on 6/6 (JV&KM). Papanui Inlet, Otago Pen 17 on 10/4. Kaikorai Est, 7 on 26/3 (JV&KM). Catlins Lgn, c.15 on 22/2, 30 on 13/3, 35 on 12/6, 45 on 25/6. Cabbage Pt, c.30 on 17/3. Papatowai, 2 on 11/2, 1-3 in April (DJO). Mararoa R at Riverslea, 38 feeding in paddocks on 24/3; an exceptionally late inland record for Southland (Bruce Newlands). Thornbury, max 13, April to June, on muddy paddocks (OJL). Ruapuke 1, 45 ad, 27 fledged juv, 2 chicks on 11/11 (MLB).

MONGOLIAN DOTTEREL *C. mongolus*

L Wainono, 1 on 28/6 (RM).

LARGE SAND DOTTEREL *C. leschenaultii*

Ashley Est, 1 during summer (AC, KCH).

ORIENTAL DOTTEREL *C. veredus*

Greymouth AF, 1 on 24-26/10 was second West Coast record (AB, PG, CSL, RS). Invercargill Est, 1 on 8/2, not found 9/2. Waituna Lgn, 1 on 18-19/2. Plumage differences indicated that this was a second bird (MLB, RRS).

BLACK-FRONTED DOTTEREL *C. melanops*

Nelson Haven, 1 on 19/9 (KDQ), 1 on 17/5 (ZW). Wairau R, Wratts Rd, 2 in Mar (BN). Break Crk Lgn, 1 from 13/3 to 19/3 was the second West Coast record (CSL *et al.*). South Canterbury census, 84 on 24-25/10; Ashburton R,

24 – an increase of 14 on last year; Orari R, 23 compared with 15 in '86; Opihi R, 32 compared with 39 in '86; Temuka R, 1 compared with 5, Washdyke Lgn, 3, Spider Lgn, 1 (CFJO'D). Washdyke Lgn, 2 on 26/9 (BHS). L Wainono, 8 on 28/5. Oamaru, Fortification Rd, 2 on 31/5 and 12/6 (A&TH). Taieri R at Outram, 2 groups of 3 and 2, 2 km apart on 14/8; 2 birds overwintering were last seen on 22/6. Allanton, nest with 2 eggs on 4/11 (PS). Whitestone R, 1.5 km above Mararoa R junction, 1 ad on 5/9, farthest upstream record (JV&KM). Aparima R at Orautau, loose flock of 10-12 moving up and down over c.1.5 km of riverbed on 5/3 and 12/3 (Sid Smithies).

NEW ZEALAND SHORE PLOVER *Thinornis novaeseelandiae*

Summer survey on South East I, Chatham Is, indicates population is stable at c.120 birds (AG).

WRYBILL *Anarhynchus frontalis*

Motueka sandspit, 8 on 7/10 (JMH, GDQ). Nelson Haven, 1 on 28/9, 7 on 6/10 (JMH). L Grassmere, max 2, Jan-Mar (PSG). Orowaiti Est, 1 that arrived in April 87 was last seen on 23/7; the third recent West Coast record (DJO,KS). Canterbury, widespread and breeding on braided rivers south of the Ashley. Avon-Heathcote Est, 1 on 9/10, 6 on 26/10 (AC). L Ellesmere, 97 in Aug (CFJO'D), 25 on Greenpark Sands on 7/9 (PAL), 1 on 12/12 (PMS), 5 in Feb and 1 in April (CFJO'D). Ashburton R census, 3 on 24/10 (CFJO'D). L Wainono, 112 on 1/11 (RM). Hopkins/Dobson R delta, 1 on 4/3 a late record for this far inland (SE). Oreti B Sth, 5 on 25/7 (MLB). Te Anau, Upukurora RM, 1 on 23/10 (KM). Invercargill Est, 4 on 8/2 (MLB).

FAR-EASTERN CURLEW *Numenius madagascariensis*

As well as usual records from Farewell Spit, Nelson Haven, 1 on 18/9 (GDQ). Wairau Lgn, 2 in early 1988 (BN). Ashley Est, 2 during summer, 1 on 15/4 (AC,KCH). Invercargill Est, 4 on 9/2 (MLB). Waituna, 14 on 21/3, flying in easterly direction between Waituna and Mataura R, about 14 km inland (Ray Waghorn).

ASIATIC WHIMBREL *N.phaeopus variegatus*

Orowaiti Est, 1 that arrived in April '87 was seen on 23/7, 29/7, 23/8, 27/8 and 15/12 (DJO,KS, NW). Invercargill Est, 1 on 1/9 (MLB).

AMERICAN WHIMBREL *N.phaeopus hudsonicus*

Invercargill Est, 1 on 28/10 (MLB).

WHIMBREL sp.

As well as usual records from Farewell Spit, Waimea Est, 1 among stilts and godwits on 4/9 (AC).

ASIATIC BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa melanuroides*

Cooper's Lgn, 2 during summer (KCH).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT *L.haemastica*

L Ellesmere, 1 in Nov and Dec (KCH,GW). Cabbage Pt, Catlins, 1 on 13/3. Catlins L, 1 on 13/3 and twice in June (DJO).

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *L.lapponica*

Nelson, an increase in wintering godwits was noted this year in June census (GDQ). L Grassmere, max 34 between Jan and Mar (PSG). West Coast, main concentrations were Karama, c.230 on 21/11, 187 on 12-13/3;

Oparara, 34 on 21/11, 32+ on 11/3; Okari, 102 in Nov, 36 in Feb; Orowaiti Est, 9 in July, 11 in Aug, 69 in Nov, 33 in Dec, 45 in Jan, 41 in Mar, 30 in May, 7 in June. Other winter records were Okari, 1 in June, Westport AF, 11 on 18/6. Recorded in small numbers (<10) during Oct to Jan at Westport, Buller Est, Barrytown, L Ryan, Greymouth AF/Blaketown, New R, Taramakau RM, Arahura RM, Mikonui RM (PG, CJ, CSL, DJO, KS, RS). Canterbury, records from most coastal wetlands. Woodend B, 1 on 3/2. Ashley Est, 182 on 14/12, 167 on 5/2, 22 on 15/4. Brooklands Lgn, 231 on 18/2, 3 on 4/5. Avon-Heathcote Est, c.190 through winter, 270 on 24/8, 640 on 23/9, 908 on 28/9, 1180 on 9/10, max 2000 late Oct, c.1800 through summer, 1780 on 15/3, 865 on 23/3, 519 on 25/3, c.470 overwintering in '88. Lyttelton Hbr, none overwintering in '87, 135 on 9/10, 253 on 1/11, 365 on 3/12, c.960 Jan to Mar, c. 30 overwintering '88 (AC). L Ellesmere, 6 overwintered in '87 (CFJO'D), 70 on 31/10, 90 on 26/11 at Wolfe's Rd (PAL), 52 on 12/12 (PMS), 41 in Feb, 30 in Apr (CFJO'D). Blueskin Bay, Waitati, 30 on 1/2 (A&TH). Papanui Inlet, Otago Pen, max 539, Dec to Feb, then 36-151, Mar to June (JV&KM). Cabbage Pt, Catlins 285 on 13/3. Catlins Lgn, c.500 in Feb falling to c.50 in June. Papatowai, 1 to 3 in Feb and Mar (DJO). Waikawa, 80 on 10/1, 176 on 31/1 (DJL), c.300 on 21/2 (DJO). Invercargill Est, main flock arrived 28/9 between 1000 and 1630 h (RRS). Te Anau, Upukurora RM, 2 on 30/9, 8 on 22/10 (KM). Dipton, 2 feeding on riverbed on 20/11 (MLB). Southland summer census 2905+ on 21/11 (WJC). Ruapuke I, 2 on 11/2 (MLB).

LESSER YELLOWLEGS *Tringa flavipes*

L Wainono, 1 in Nov (RJP).

GREENSHANK *T. nebularia*

Puponga, 1 on 20/2, first Nelson sighting for several years (PA, DA, RL). Awarua Bay, 1 on 20/12 and 7/2 (MLB).

MARSH SANDPIPER *T. stagnatilis*

L Grassmere, 1 in Mar (PSG).

SIBERIAN TATTLER *T. brevipes*

Usually seen on Farewell Spit and Motueka Est, this year and last. Motueka Sandspit, 1 on 11/5 (AC). Port Motueka causeway, 1 on 11/12/86 (RP). Kaikoura, 3 on 26/2 (RM). Avon-Heathcote Est, 2 probably of this species on 23/9, 1 on 18/3 (AC).

TATTLER sp.

Papanui Inlet, Otago Pen, 1 on 7/3 (JV&KM). Awarua B, 3 on 20/12 and 7/2 (MLB).

TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus*

L Ellesmere, 1 through summer from August, also overwintered (AC, KCH, PAL, CFJO'D, PMS).

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres*

Nelson, summer flocks mostly occur at Farewell Spit, Motueka Est, and Waimea Est, uncommon elsewhere. Motueka Est, 466 on 11/1 (AC). L Grassmere, 300+ Jan-Mar (PSG). West Coast, uncommon. Nth B, Westport, 1 on 16/10. Buller RM breakwater, 1 on 17/11 (DJO). Arahura Est, 5 on 22/11 (PG, RS). Canterbury, uncommon. Ashley Est, 7 on 5/2,

8 on 15/4. Avon-Heathcote Est, 2 in Oct and Nov (AC). L Ellesmere, 1 on 12/12 (PMS). Cooper's Lgn, 3 on 21/12 (KCH). Waitaki RM, 1-6 birds between 11/2 and 15/3 (A&TH). Tomahawk Lgn, Dunedin, 1 on 26/11; a new site (B&DMcK). Victory B, Otago Pen, 1 on 6/12 (JV&KM). Southland summer census, 830+ on 21/11 (WJC). Ruapuke I, 78 on 10/2 (MLB).

CHATHAM ISLAND SNIPE *Coenocorypha aucklandica pusilla*

Mangere I, Chathams, common from 20/10 to 24/3 (AJDT).

SNIPE *Gallinago* sp.

Cooper's Lgn, 1 on 21/12, presumably a Japanese Snipe (*G.hardwickii*) (KCH).

KNOT *Calidris canutus*

Nelson, same distribution and concentrations as last year (GDQ). Motueka Est, 157+ on 11/1 (AC). L Grassmere, max 31, Jan-Mar (PSG). West Coast, uncommon, Karamea Lgn, 17 on 12-13/3 (CJ). Orowaiti Est, 1 on 26/1 (DJO,NW); 1 on 21/5 (KS). L Ryan, 1 on 18/11 (CSL). Canterbury, uncommon with main concentrations at L Ellesmere. Waipara RM, 4 on 28/8. Ashley Est, 3 on 14/12, 2 on 5/2. Avon-Heathcote Est, 8 on 24/8, 5 on 27/9, 8 through Oct, 1 on 4/12 (AC). L Ellesmere, 110 on 26/11 (PAL), 85 in Feb. Ashburton R, 3 on 24/10. Opihi R, 2 on 25/10 (CFJO'D). Otago, no records. Wairaki RM, 1 on 26/10, 25 km from coast and 50 km from nearest coastal wader habitat (MLB). Southland summer census, 592+ on 21/11 (WJC).

SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER *C.acuminata*

As well as usual records from Farewell Spit; Nelson Haven, 1 on 11/10 (GDQ,KDQ,SW,ZW). L Grassmere, max 3, Jan-Mar (PSG). Nth B, Westport, 3 on 15/12, 4 on 18/12, 2 on 26/1 (DJO,KS,NW). L Ryan, 1 on 17/11, 4 on 18-19/11, 3 on 27/11 and 5/12 (CSL); first West Coast records in recent years. L Ellesmere, 48 on 12/12 (PMS) was the largest flock on record, 21 on 20/1 (AC), 14 in Feb (CFJO'D). Cooper's Lgn, 14 during Jan (KCH). Otago, no records. Southland summer census, 41 on 21/11 (WJC).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER *C.melanotos*

L Grassmere, 1 between Jan and Mar (PSG). L Ellesmere, occurs annually; 1 on 20/1 (AC), 2 during Feb (CFJO'D). Kaikorai Est, 2 on 19-23/3 (DY). Ruapuke I, 1 on 10-11/2 (MLB).

CURLEW SANDPIPER *C.ferruginea*

L Grassmere, max 5, Jan-Mar (PSG). Waipara RM, 1 on 28/8 (AC). L Ellesmere, 1 overwintered in 1987 (CFJO'D), 31 on 12/12 (PMS), 23 on 15/1 (PAL), 23 on 19/2 (AC), 28 in April (CFJO'D). Cooper's Lgn, 9 on 21/12 (KCH).

RED-NECKED STINT *C.ruficollis*

Farewell Spit, only record for Nelson region (GDQ). L Grassmere, max 3, Jan-Mar (PSG). Nth B, Westport, 1 on 16/10, 1 on 15/12, 1 on 18/12 (DJO,KS,NW). L Ryan, 1 on 17/11 (CSL). The first West Coast records in recent years. L Ellesmere, 50 on 26/11 (PAL), 56 on 12/12 (PMS), 65 on 21/12 (KCH), 73 on 20/1 (AC), 65 in Feb (PMS), 42 on 2/4 (RM), 34 on 18/4 (CFJO'D). Cooper's Lgn, 20 on 21/12 (KCH). Otago, no records. Southland summer census, 32 on 21/11 (WJC). Waituna Lgn, 8 overwintering on 23/6 (MLB).

SANDERLING *C. alba*

Awarua Bay, 2 on 20/12 (MLB).

RUFF *Philomachus pugnax*

L Wainono, 1 on 1/11 and 10/11 (RM).

PIED STILT *Himantopus himantopus*

Nelson, usual flocking along the coast during winter with many more in Tasman Bay than Golden Bay during June census (JMH). L Grassmere, max 300, Jan-Mar (PSG). Wairau Lgn, 114 including 3 juv, 1 node D1 hybrid on 12/5 (DP&EM, CER, WFC). West Coast, widespread reports of small numbers from most coastal wetlands. Max numbers: Orowaiti Est, 44 on 15/12, 42 on 26/1, 60 on 22/3 (CJ,DJO); Okari, 23 on 16-17/2 (CJ); L Ryan, 26 on 7/11 (CSL). Nesting at L Ryan lasted Oct to Dec: 1 nest on 31/10, 1 on 17/11, 4 on 19/11 had all gone by 27/11, 1 on 5/12; produced only 5 young (CSL). Canterbury, common throughout, with largest concentrations at L Ellesmere. Conway RM, 5 on 26/6 (JC). Waipara RM, 66 on 21/2 (AC), 16 on 26/6 (JC). Ashley Est, 103 on 5/2, 51 including 11 juv on 11/5 (DPM,EM,CER); Woodend Lgn, 68 on 3/2. Brooklands Lgn, 146 on 18/2. Avon-Heathcote Est, c.210 Jan to June. Lyttelton Hbr, max 126 on 14/3 (AC), L Ellesmere, 2864 in Aug (CFJO'D), 1406 on 12/12 (PMS), 2067 in Feb, declining to 448 in April (CFJO'D). Common breeder on braided riverbeds e.g. Ashburton R census, 222 on 24/10. Orari R census, 102 on 25/10. Opihi R census, 163 on 25/10. MacKenzie Basin, most migrate by autumn but a few remain for winter: Cass R delta, 1 on 3/5; Mailbox Inlet, 1 on 20/4; Tasman R delta, 2 on 5/4, 3 on 2/6 with Black Stilts. Ohau R delta, 3 on 6/4 and 22/4 (SE). Waitaki RM, 2 pr each with 2 fledged juv on 2/12. Fortification Rd, Oamaru, 12 on 31/5 (A&TH). Cabbage Pt, Catlins, c.50 on 13/3 (DJO). Southland summer census, 272+ on 21/11 (WJC). Waikawa, 40 on 10/1 and 13/1 (DJL). Thornbury, 50+ on 12/6 (OJL). Ruapuke I, 20 including 3 juv on 11/11 (MLB).

BLACK STILT *H. novaeseelandiae*

Wairau Lgn, 1 node E hybrid on 12/5 (WFC). Ashley Est, colour-banded 1 ad, 2 juv and 1 node I hybrid on 5/2 and 10/2 (AC). L Ellesmere, 1 ad and 1 node I in Aug (RN,CFJO'D). Ashburton R, 1 banded node I nested, 2 eggs laid 7/10 (DG). MacKenzie Basin. Winter census, 43 ad, 11 juv (BHS). Summer, 11 breeding pr with total population of 46 ad; 13 juv fledged by Jan (PC,SE,DPM,CP,CER). L Wainono, 1 ad with node I mate through May and June (DC,A&TH,RM,DPM).

ORIENTAL PRATINCOLE *Glariola maldivarum*

Ruapuke I, 1 on 10/2, 11/2 loafing and roosting beside Lgn among Banded Dotterels, Turnstones and Black-fronted Terns; hawked alone above house and garden (MLB).

SOUTHERN GREAT SKUA *Stercorarius skua lonnbergi*

L Wainono, 1 chased White-fronted Terns on 2/4 (SE).

POMARINE SKUA *S. pomarinus*

Motueka Sandspit, 1 light phase on 11/1 chasing Caspian Terns. Hurunui RM, 1 light phase on 3/4 (AC).

ARCTIC SKUA *S. parasiticus*

Buller R breakwater, 1 dark phase on 17/11, 4 (3 dark, 1 light) on 15/12, 1 light phase on 26/1. Razorback B, Punakaiki, 2 dark phase on 22/12 (DJO,NW). Hurunui RM, 8 dark phase on 3/4 chasing shearwaters and terns. Ashley Est, 1 dark phase on 15/4. South New Brighton, Christchurch, 1 dark phase on 20/2 (AC). Birdling's Flat, 1 dark phase with pointed tail feathers on 16/4 (PAL).

SKUA sp.

Tasman Bay and Golden Bay, regularly seen in summer (GDQ). Ashley Est, 3 dark phase on 14/12, 2 (1 light, 1 dark) on 5/2 (AC). L Wainono, 1 chasing White-fronted Terns on 17/5 (A&TH). Pitt I, Chathams, 2, not Southern Skuas, at Sth end on 9/2 (AJDT).

BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus dominicanus*

Farewell Spit, 3 colonies of c.34 nests. Nelson Boulder Bank, largest colony with c.1000 nests in Nov and Dec, only 200 young banded in late Dec. Bell's I, 147 nests in Nov. Rabbit I, 61 nests in Nov (JMH). West Coast max numbers: Orowaiti, 323 + (CJ); Cobden Lgn, c.100 on 1/8; Greymouth tip, 300-400 Jan to Mar (CSL). Western Paparoa Range, 2 above bushline on 26/10 and 3 fresh nests at Buckland Peaks on 1/11 (PG,RS). Brooklands Lgn, 518 on 18/2, 890 on 4/5. Teddington, Lyttelton Hbr, 1210 in 3 colonies on 1/11 (AC). L Ellesmere, 531 in Aug, 586 in Feb, 558 in April (CFJO'D). Common breeding bird on all Canterbury braided rivers e.g. Ashburton R, 4543 in 9 colonies on Nth Branch and 6338 in 12 colonies on Sth Branch on 24/10. Orari R, 179 on 25/10. Opihi R, 212 on 25/10 (CFJO'D). Invercargill area, large population increase in recent years. At least 6 colonies each of up to 800 pr within 20 km radius of city. 4200 + between NZAS jetty and Tiwai bridge on 5/2 (MLB).

RED-BILLED GULL *L. novaehollandiae scopulinus*

Nelson Boulder Bank, attempted nesting at 6 different sites, none successful (JMH). Waitapu c.220 in paddocks on 6/9 (AC). West Coast, bred at Wall Rock, Cape Foulwind with c.15 nests on 17/11 and Mokihinui RM, at least 1 nest on 12/12 (DJO). Canterbury, common along coast with main concentration on Avon-Heathcote Est. Breed around Bank's Pen (CFJO'D). Ashley Est, 630 on 5/2. Brooklands Lgn, 167 on 4/5. Avon-Heathcote Est, 4570 on 16/8, 6280 on 25/3. Lyttelton Hbr, 726 on 12/3. Akaroa Hbr, 373 on 22/6 (AC). L Ellesmere, 1 only in Aug census, 531 in Feb, 51 in Apr (CFJO'D). Rare inland on braided rivers, but 14 on Ashburton R census on 24/10, including 1 pr nesting with Black-billed Gulls 8 km inland. A second pr was displaying (CFJO'D). When visited 2 weeks later, 1 pr had clutch of 2 eggs (DG).

BLACK-BILLED GULL *L. bulleri*

Nelson, small numbers at many coastal areas in winter. Motueka Est, 31 on 11/5 (AC). L Rotoiti, seen in Feb (JR,SR). West Coast, max numbers: Karamea Est, 300-400 on 30/11; Orowaiti Est, 63 on 18/6 (CSL,KS); Whataroa, c.600 on 3/11 (CFJO'D). Conway RM, c.200 on 26/6 (JC). Hurunui RM, 293 on 3/4. Ashley Est, 630 on 5/2 (AC). L Ellesmere, 712 in Aug, 340 in Feb, but none in Apr census (CFJO'D). Washdyke Lgn,

20 on 26/9 (BHS). Common breeding bird on braided rivers in Canterbury from Conway to Waitaki, e.g. Ashburton R, Sth branch, 10 993 in 4 colonies on 24/10. Orari R, 2401 on 25/10 (CFJO'D). Widespread in MacKenzie Basin with small numbers (max 14) overwintering at Godley, Cass, Tasman, Hopkins/Dobson, and Ohau R deltas and playing fields around Twizel (SE).

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Grey R Est, 1 on 7-17/11 (PG,CSL,RS); the fourth West Coast record. Kaitorete Spit, L Ellesmere, 1 on 24/3 (RM). Twizel R/Ohau R confluence, 1 ad on 27/9 (PC) and 24/12 (SE).

BLACK-FRONTED TERN *Sterna albobriata*

Nelson, recorded from coastal areas in winter. Motueka RM, 13 on 1/9, 12 on 11/1 (AC). Motueka R, c.14 ad at small breeding colony on 31/10 (GDQ). West Coast, apart from 1 ad in breeding plumage at Mohikini Est on 5/7 (DJO), all other records were in autumn; Oparara Lgn, 8 on 11/3; Kaikō Crk Lgn, 7 on 11/3; Okari, 1 on 16-17/2 (CJ); Charleston, 3 in Mar; Barrytown, 1 on 21/5 (KS); a few more records than usual. Common along Canterbury coastline in autumn and winter. Conway RM, c.50 on 26/6 (JC). Hurunui RM, 26 on 3/4 (AC). Waipara RM, c.15 on 26/6 (JC). Avon-Heathcote Est, max 40 Mar-June. Bromley SP, 34 hawking over ponds on 1/4. Lyttelton Hbr, a rare visitor with 4 on 14/4, 2 on 13/5, 1 on 22/6 and 10/7 (AC). L Ellesmere, 35 in Aug, none in Feb, 48 in Apr (CFJO'D). Taumutu coastline, 8 on 12/1, c.15 on 30/2, 10-30 on 20/3 (PAL). Breed on all Canterbury braided rivers, e.g. Ashburton R, Sth Branch 220 and Nth Branch 11 on 24/10. Orari R, 162 on 25/10. Opihi R, 127 on 25/10 (CFJO'D). MacKenzie Basin, breed on rivers but most depart autumn and a few overwinter. Large flocks appear on paddocks in Feb. Late autumn and winter records up rivers of 1 or 2 birds include Ohau R on 25/3, 6/4, 1/6; Tekapo R, on 6/4, 16/6; Lower Ahuriri R, on 29/3; Upper Ahuriri R, on 30/3, 4/5. Other records of 1-6 birds Apr to June on Godley, Cass, Tasman, Hopkins/Dobson, Ohau R deltas with max c.150 on Tasman on 5/4 (SE). Early southern records: Waitaki RM, 10 on 12/6, 1 on 8/9; Ngapara/Georgetown Rd, 6 on 19/7. Kakanui Est, 1 on 7/2. Wainakuru Est, 4 on 7/2 (A&TH). Eglinton V, 3 pr with nests among lupins on 14/12 (SC). Autumn records in Catlins; Kaka Pt, Nuggets, 1 on 13/3; Papatowai, 1 to 4 juv in last week Mar, 1 on 24/4 (DJO).

CASPIAN TERN *Hydroprogne caspia*

Farewell Spit, main colony in Nelson region, c.200 birds on shellbanks in Nov; nests not counted. Bell's I, nesting again but no breeding on Nelson Boulder Bank (JMH). Takaka RM, 23 on 5/9. Motueka Sandspit, 23 on 11/1 (AC). West Coast, recorded in small numbers throughout the year at many coastal sites. Max Mokihinui Est, 8 on 19/6 (CSL). Hurunui RM, 5 on 3/4. Ashley Est, 23 on 15/4. Brooklands Lgn, 13 on 18/2, 15 on 4/5. Avon-Heathcote Est, max 101 on 28/2. Akaroa Hbr, 3 on 12/3, 6 on 22/6. Kaitorete Spit, 12 on 30/8 (AC). L Ellesmere, 28 in Aug, 18 in Feb, 16 in Apr (CFJO'D). Rangitata RM, 50 on 25/4 (SE). Washdyke Lgn, 1 on 26/9 (BHS). L Wainono, 3 on 17/5 (A&TH). MacKenzie Basin, pairs nest far inland on most braided rivers. Still some sightings Feb to June. Godley R delta, 2 on 2/3. Hopkins/Dobson R delta, 1 on 25/2, 4/3, 3 on 5/4, 1 on 22/4, 4 on 10/6, 1 on 21/6. Ohau R delta, 1 on 22/2, 4 on 3/3, 4 on 25/3.

Ahuriri R, 2 on 17/2 (SE). Irregular on Nth Otago estuaries; max 8 at Waitaki RM in June. Kaitiki B, 1 on 18/2 (A&TH). Hawkesbury Lgn, 2 on 8/2, 1 on 15/2 (JAW). Papanui Inlet, Otago Pen, 1-5, Dec-May (JV&KM). Cabbage Pt, Catlins, 11 on 13/3. Catlins Lgn, 4 to 11, Feb to June. Papatowai, 8 sightings of 1, Feb to June. Waikawa, 2 on 10/1 (DJL), 3 on 21/2 (DJO). Invercargill Est colony, 100 + ad, 1st nests in last week October; colony washed out 26/12, 58 chicks survived to 3+ days, 23 known to fledge. 18 ad and 21 juv colour-banded. 10 on 9/2 (MLB). Tuatapere B, 1 banded bird with broken wing on 4/6; destroyed, had been banded as chick at Invercargill Est on 23/11 (AW). Sandy Pt, ad and fledged juv, both colour-banded on 15/6 (MLB).

LITTLE TERN *S.albifrons*

Nelson, no sightings this year (GDQ). L Ellesmere, 3 during Mar and Apr (PMS). Invercargill Est, 1 on 1/1 (MLB).

WHITE-FRONTED TERN *S.striata*

Nelson, present around coast in summer but seldom seen between June and Oct. Motueka Sandspit, only 1 pr nesting this year in Jan (AC). Nelson Boulder Bank, no successful nesting though several attempts made (JMH). West Coast, records from many coastal areas. Max numbers: Okari Est, 281 on 18/6 (CSL). Taramakau Est, c.500 on 20/11 (PG,RS). Nested at Mohikiniui Est, 60 + with 15 + nests on 12/12, c.40 and no active nests on 15/12 (DJO). Canterbury, common along the coast. Hurunui RM, 264 on 3/4. Waipara RM, 31 on 28/8, 206 on 21/2 (AC), 2 on 26/6 (JC). Ashley Est, 230 on 14/12, 550 on 5/2, 266 on 15/4 (AC), c.400 on 1/5. Waimakariri RM, c.350 on 4/3 (PAL). Avon-Heathcote Est, max 750 on 15/1. Akaroa Hbr, 205 on 12/3 (AC). L Ellesmere, none in Aug census, 167 in Feb, 22 in Apr. Rakaia R, 3 flying upstream c.100 km inland on 16/12. Ashburton RM, c.2000 on 24/10. Opihi R, 3 on 25/10 (CFJO'D). Large colony at Waitaki RM. Oamaru Hbr, max 250 on 21/2 (A&TH). Catlins Lgn, max c.30 in Mar. Papatowai, present Feb to May, max 36; none in June. Waikawa, Sth Head, 8 on 21/2 (DJO). Invercargill Est, 204 nests on 22/12, washed out 26/12, 1 chick survived and 5 pr were reneesting on 1/1 (MLB).

NEW ZEALAND PIGEON *Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*

West Coast, common and breeding (DJO). Greenstone RM, L Wakatipu, 24 feeding on new willow shoots on 18/9. They flew from cover as a Harrier flew over (CER).

WHITE COCKATOO *Cacatua galerita*

Inchbonnie, West Coast, 1 on 19/12 (CSL). Bank's Pen, a small population is now established. L Forsyth, 1 flying towards Okuti V on 23/7 (CFJO'D).

SOUTH ISLAND KAKA *Nestor meridionalis meridionalis*

Mt Mueller track, Lewis Pass, 1 on 6/6. W Paparoas, 1 on 26/10. Red Hills Range, 4 on 29/11 (PG,RS). Kowhai Bush, Mid-Canterbury Plains, 2 in beech on 6/11, one of the few lowland records in recent years (CFJO'D). Codfish I, several seen each day and heard calling at night Mar-Apr (JW).

KEA *N.notabilis*

NW Nelson, L Sylvester, 1 on 11/1. Cobb V, 1 on 18/1. Cupola Hut, 1 on 2/2 (JR,SR). West Coast, only 2 records reflects lack of observers:

L. Kanieri walkway, 1 on 19/9 (CSL); W Paparoas, 2 on 26/10 (PG,RS). Christchurch City, frequent records in mid winter. Bank's Pen, 1 in June. L Ellesmere, 1 in June (CFJO'D).

EASTERN ROSELLA *Platycercus eximius*

Lyttelton Hbr, 1 in June (CFJO'D). Whare Flat Rd, Dunedin, 2 in larch plantation on 17/1 (JV&KM).

PARAKEET spp. *Cyanoramphus* spp.

NW Nelson Flora Hut, several heard on 15/1; Cobb V, 2 or 3 on 18/1 (JR,SR); Mt Arthur, heard late Jan (JB). West Coast, recorded from Tiropahi on 10-14/2; Alex Knob Flat, on 2/4 (CJ); Inangahua R, 3 on 26/5; Turpentine Hill, 2 on 4/6. Mt Mueller track, Lewis Pass, c.6 on 6/6 (PG,RS). Cascade Crk, Fiordland, 13 Yellow-crowned Parakeets with 7 Yellowheads in 1 flock on 14-15/12 (SC). Codfish I, Red-crowned Parakeets common and Yellow-crowned Parakeets common and breeding in Mar-Apr (JW).

ORIENTAL CUCKOO *Cuculus saturatus*

Matai-Arahura Rd, 1 on 19/3 (PG, CSL, RS); the fourth West Coast record in recent years.

SHINING CUCKOO *Chrysococcyx lucidus*

Atawhai, Nelson, first heard in suburban garden on 13/9 (GC). Greymouth, first heard 7/10, 9/10 with several by 24/10 and regular by early Nov. First records several weeks earlier than usual. Widespread summer records on West Coast. Last record, Cobden in kowhai tree on 26/3 (PG,CSL,RS *et al*). Trotters Gorge, 2 on 14/11 (JV&KM). Otago Pen: Broad Bay, first record on 15/10 (CW), 1 through to Dec; Boulder B, 1 on 28/12 (JV&KM). Momona, 1 dead on 16/2 (G&DG). Long B, Waitati, 1 on 31/10 (JV&KM). Chaslands Bush, Southland, copulation observed on top of tall rata tree on 11/12 (SC).

LONG-TAILED CUCKOO *Eudynamis taitensis*

Nelson, recorded infrequently and then usually from high-altitude beech forest (PDG). Very occasionally from fringes of Nelson City. Mt Arthur, 1 on 16/1. Cobb V, 1 on 18/1 (JR,SR). West Coast, few records probably reflect number of observers. Greymouth, 1 calling at night on 25/12. Boddytown, 1 heard during thunder on 29/11 (CSL). Omotomotu, near Greymouth, present 10/10 and 20/11 (PG,RS). Millerton, 1 calling at night on 24/12 (DJO). Red Hills Range, 1 on 29/11 (PG,RS). Codfish I, last calls heard 4/4 (JW).

MOREPORK *Ninox novaeseelandiae*

Greymouth, present throughout the year (CSL). Charleston, 1 roosting in a pigsty in June (KS).

LITTLE OWL *Athene noctua*

Christchurch City, common in all parks with c.60 in Hagley Park (CFJO'D). Bromley Park, 1 on 26/3 (AC). Weston, Oamaru, common (A&TH). Sutton, Taieri, 1 on 4/1 (JV&KM). Catlins Lgn, 1 on 22/2 (DJO).

NEW ZEALAND KINGFISHER *Halcyon sancta*

Canterbury, uncommon in most areas. L Ellesmere, 3 in Aug. Ashburton R, 11 on 24/10. Orari R, 6 on 25/10. Opihi R, 7 on 25/10 (CFJO'D). MacKenzie Basin, rare: L Alexandrina, 1 on 19/7 (RM); L Tekapo, 1 on

26/2; Ohau R delta, 1 on 22/4 (SE). Washdyke Lgn, 2 on 7/6 (DG). Glenavy, 1 on 12/6. Oamaru and Weston, 1 on 24/1, 6/5, 17/5 (A&TH). St Clair B, Dunedin, 1 on 10/6 (JV&KM). Waihopai R, 1 seen most days, 2 occasionally 1/7 to 7/12; 1 appeared again 21/3 and seen most days until 30/6 (MLB). Gore, 1 eating Fantail on 28/5 during 4-day heavy snowfall in garden where species had not been seen for 15 years (Doreen Gilchrist). Progress V, Southland, 1 on 11/12 (SC).

SOUTH ISLAND RIFLEMAN *Acanthisitta chloris chloris*

W Paparoas, present on 26/10 (PG,RS). Present, Hoopers Inlet, Otago Pen (WWA). Cascade Crk, Fiordland, common on 14/12 (SC). Codfish I, several seen Mar-Apr (JW).

ROCK WREN *Xenicus gilviventris*

Harris Saddle, Mt Aspiring/Fiordland NP, 1 on 1/1 (JW). The usual birds recorded at Fox Glacier, 1 on 17/11; and Homer Tunnel, 1 on 21/11 (BHS), pr obviously nesting on 15/12, another bird seen higher above the tunnel (SC). Adam Burn, Fiordland NP, pr on 2/4 (PG,RS).

SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis*

West Coast, common and breeding (DJO). Two over 30 km off Bank's Pen flying low over water on 31/8 (PAL). Mangere I, Chathams, common from 20/10 to 24/3 (AJDT). Waituna, 65 + on 21/6 feeding alternately among sheep-cropped growing turnips and wet pasture; flew in loose flock between 2 sites several times over 40 minutes (MLB).

AUSTRALIAN TREE MARTIN *Hylochelidon nigricans*

Farewell Spit, 1 with Welcome Swallows at lighthouse end in Jan (Junior Course).

WELCOME SWALLOW *Hirundo tahitica neoxena*

West Coast, many records from Buller and Nth of Taramakau R, and so well established there. Max: 30 + at Okari on 16-17/2; 20 at Blaketown Lgn on 18/6 (PG,RS). Sth of Taramakau, fewer records: L Kaniere, present on 30/1, 27/3 (CJ); Mahinapua SF, 3 on 30/11; Waitaha V, 1 on 15/6; Whataroa, 3 on 30/11 (CSL); Okuru c.7 on 4/4 (CJ). Christchurch, Bromley SP, 238 on 24/4 (AC). L Ellesmere, 149 in Aug, 42 in Feb, 299 in Apr. Ashburton R census, 61 on 24/10. Orari R, 47 on 25/10. Opihi R, 51 on 25/10 (CFJO'D). Rare in high country Canterbury and absent pre-1980 but have spread into MacKenzie Basin in winter of recent years; pattern suggests probably from Lower Waitaki R. Max 20 on 29/4. L Poaka, 4 on 7/6. Ohau R, 5 on 31/5, 3 on 1/6. L Ohau, 2 on 21/6. Homestead Tarn, 2 on 26/4. Ahuriri R, 1 on 4/4, 20/6. Tara Hills wetland, 1 on 20/6. L Benmore, 2 on 21/6 (SE). Nth Otago, widespread from full length of Lower Waitaki R south. Max 27, Fortification Rd ponds, Oamaru (A&TH). Clinton, 400-500 on power lines on 22/2 (MIT). Shag R, 1 on 15/10. Palmerston, 1 on 26/11 (JAW). Merton, ad on nest under bridge on 4/1 (JV&KM). Papanui Inlet, Otago Pen, 7 ad and 2 fledglings on 13/12 (JV&KM). Wingatui, Taieri, 1 on 30/11 (JAW). Inchclutha c.30 on 13/3. Finegard/Telford, SE Otago, present Feb to June, max c.30 in June. Papatowai, southerly coastal movement, Mar to May, max 365 an hour on 19/4 (DJO). Te Anau/Manapouri Main Rd, 3 chicks fledged 12/10 (KM). Codfish I, 1 flying over beach and creek 4/4 (JW).

NEW ZEALAND PIPIT *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

Common in Charleston-Tiropahi area, e.g. 12+ on 10-14/2 (CJ). Also present above bushline in W Paparoas on 26/10 (PG,RS). Most coastal records in autumn and winter: Oparara, 2 on 11/3 (CJ); 9 mile B, Charleston, 1 on 20/5 (KS); Little B, 2 on 18/6, Blaketown Lgn, 2 on 4/7, Totara R Est, 2 on 15/6 (CSL); Okuru, 4 on 4/4 (CJ). Mangere I, Chatham, common from 20/10 to 24/3 (AJDT). Chaslands, Southland, common on roadsides 11/12 (SC).

HEDGESPARROW *Prunella modularis*

West Coast, common and breeding (DJO).

SOUTH ISLAND FERNBIRD *Bowdleria punctata punctata*

West Coast, locally common and breeding. Recorded from Oparara, Karamea, Orowaiti, Addison's, Cape Foulwind, Okari, Basset's Wetland, Charleston/Tiropahi, Barrytown, Red Jack's/Grey R wetland, German Terrace, Deep Crk, Fox R (Buller), Larry R, Okuru and above the bushline (1300 m) in the W Paparoas (PC,PG,CJ,CSL,DJO,RS,EBS). CJ estimated 3/ha max density in the Tiropahi area. Otago, Silver Peaks Reserve, 2 on 27/3. Mt Cargill, 4 on 7/5. Big Stream, Mt Allen, 1-4 birds, 24/4 and 4/6 in *Pinus radiata* and grass (JV&KM). Papatowai and Tautuku Est, Catlins, present Feb to June (DJO). Manapouri-Tuatapere Rd, Blackmount Hill, 2 at edge of young Douglas fir plantation on 5/7 (JV&KM).

CODFISH FERNBIRD *B.punctata wilsoni*

Population number unknown but several seen and heard around Sealer's Bay and in the pakihi habitats on high parts of the island (JW).

FERNBIRD sp.

Ruapuke I, Moana Putakitaki Lgn, 11/11, single call recorded as "possible fernbird"; 11/2, 0840-0900 h, mist, visibility 90-100 m, 8 fernbird calls heard, each a separate call note probably from a single bird (MLB).

BROWN CREEPER *Finschia novaeseelandiae*

West Coast, recorded from: Charleston-Tiropahi (CJ,DJO); L Wombat track on 2/4 (CJ); Maruia V ridgetops at 800 m asl on 2-3/4 with large flock of Silvereyes (PC); also with Silvereyes on Mt French track (near L Brunner) on 20/5; Turpentine Hill, c.20 on 4/6 (PG,RS). Herbert forest, Otago, several small flocks on 12/4. Waipori Rd, 8-10 on 12/7. Omaui Bush, Invercargill, pr with 3 young on 12/12. Ulva I, Stewart I, common on 13/12 (SC). Codfish I, common in some habitats Mar-Apr (JW).

YELLOWHEAD *Mohoua ochrocephala*

Hawdon V, Arthurs Pass NP, population crashed from 60-80 birds to only 12-14 after a stoat and mouse irruption in Nov (CFJO'D). Makarora Track, Haast Pass, 6 on 19/11. L Gunn-Cascade Lodge, 2 and 4 on 21/11 (BHS). Cascade Crk, 7 birds in 1 flock feeding with 13 Yellow-crowned Parakeets on 14-15/12 (SC).

GREY WARBLER *Gerygone igata*

Many records from throughout West Coast, including a bird or two in Greymouth gardens from April onwards (DJO). Codfish I, common Mar-Apr (JW).

CHATHAM ISLAND WARBLER *G.albofrontata*

Mangere I, common from 20/10 to 24/3 (AJDT).

CHATHAM ISLAND FANTAIL *Rhipidura fuliginosa penitus*

Chatham I, 4 at Waitangi on 13/2. Mangere I, none seen from 20/10 to 24/3 (AJDT).

YELLOW-BREASTED TIT *Petroica macrocephala macrocephala*

Arrowtown to Macetown, several sightings over 19 km on 3/4 (RRS). Codfish I, common Mar-Apr (JW).

SOUTH ISLAND ROBIN *P.australis australis*

West Coast, Tiropahi, present 10-14/2 (CJ); Tawhai SF, Sth of Reefton Saddle, 2 on 28/12, 1 on 4/3 (CSL). Maruia V, plentiful 2-3/4 (PC). Ianthe SF, 2 on 27/2 (CJ, CSL). Dunedin: Ross Crk, 2 on 18/1, 1 on 18/2 (WWA); Whare Flat, 1 in *Pinus radiata* on 17/1 (JV&KM). Cascade Crk, Fiordland, family group of 5 on 14/12 (SC).

BLACK ROBIN *P.traversi*

Total population, SE Island and Mangere I, 38 in Oct and 87 by Feb after summer breeding programme (AG).

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos*

Chatham I, 1 at Waitangi on 13/2. Mangere I, none seen from 20/10 to 24/3 (AJDT).

BLACKBIRD *T.merula*

West Coast, common and breeding. Present above bushline (1300 m) in the W Paparoas on 26/10 (PG,RS).

SILVEREYE *Zosterops lateralis*

A pair feeding young in Ianthe SF on 27/2 was nesting at quite a late date (CSL).

BELLBIRD *Anthornis melanura*

Widespread records from native forest and forest remnants on West Coast. Some autumn/winter dispersal suggested by one in a Greymouth garden on 16/4 and 25/6 (CSL). Christchurch City, away from the hills, single birds also appear only during winter (CFJO'D). Codfish I, common Mar-Apr (JW).

TUI *Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae novaeseelandiae*

Widespread records from native forest on West Coast. Less common than Bellbirds at L Wombat and Alex Knob tracks (CJ). Spring visits to kowhais in Greymouth suburbs; 1 on 18/7 and 24/7, 5 on 27/7 (CSL). Hampden, Otago, several sightings during June of 1 bird; a new locality (TDM). Codfish I, common Mar-Apr (JW).

CHATHAM ISLAND TUI *P.novaeseelandiae chathamensis*

Mangere I, 2 on 23/10; 1 flew to Pitt I (PMcC). No others seen 20/10 to 24/3 (AJDT).

YELLOWHAMMER *Emberiza citrinella*

Chatham I, 2 near the Horns on 17/10. Mangere I, none seen 20/10 to 24/3 (AJDT).

CIRL BUNTING *E.cirlus*

Nelson Haven, regularly seen flocking with Yellowhammers during

winter. Polestead Rd, Stoke, flocking with other finches on sports field (AB,GDQ). Bromley SP paddocks, Christchurch, present July to Aug, max 9 on 27/7; returned May '88, 2 on 27/5, 6 on 24/6 (AC). Embankment Rd saltmarshes, L Ellesmere, 1 on 5/7 (PAL). Kaituna Lgn, Ellesmere, group of 4 on 23/7 (CFJO'D).

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs*

Blaketown Lgn, 18 feeding on tidal mudflats on 3/10 (CSL). Mangere I, Chathams, rare from 20/10 to 24/3 (AJDT).

GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris*

West Coast, probably less common than other finches; only recorded by CJ at the Tiropahi on his wetland survey. Feeding on *Cotoneaster* berries at Charleston in June (KS).

GOLDFINCH *C. carduelis*

A flock of c.550 near Charleston on 27/4 (KS). Chatham I, several at Waitangi on 13/2 (AJDT).

REDPOLL *Acanthis flammea*

Mangere I, Chathams, common from 20/10 to 24/3 (AJDT).

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

Greymouth, returned to nest sites 14/7, mating 14/10, building 22/10, hatching 29/10, many chicks by 31/10. Greymouth AF, on 5/12 including many juveniles; c.150 gathered in a willow on 9/6 left for roost at 1702 h. Wall I, Cape Foulwind, c.100 roosting on 18/6 (CSL). Mangere I, Chathams, common from 20/10 to 24/3 (AJDT). Ruapuke I, 610+ on 10/2 (MLB). Codfish I, a flock of 6-7 flew from among rocks on N Hd and returned there later on 3/4 (JW).

WHITE-BACKED MAGPIE *Gymnorhina tibicen hypoleuca*

Absent from Golden Bay and most of Waimea Plains. A few resident birds at Tapawera. Infrequent in Buller V, Matariki, 5 on 6/2 (GDQ). Nelson Hospital area, 1 in April (MC). Pelorus, 1 on 27/11 (GDQ).

MAGPIE sp.

Many records from inland Greymouth-Hokitika. Elsewhere, Westport, 1 flying Nth on 8/12 was first record for this area (DJO); Whataroa R, 1 on 30/11 (CSL); Okuru, 1 on 4/4 (CJ). Arahura V, 3 birds on 6/6 were the black-backed subspecies (CSL). Ruapuke I, heard on 11/11. Report from Trevor Waititiri that 4 came to island in 1986, but only 3 were seen in 1987 (MLB).

ROOK *Corvus frugilegus*

Woodend, 4 on 8/5. Port Levy, 8 on 12/3. Purau Bay, Lyttelton Hbr, 8 on 12/3, Duvauchelles Bay, Akaroa Hbr, 115 on 12/3 (AC) Greenpark, 100+ on 26/11 (PAL).