

# Conservation status of native bird species in the Wellington region

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## 1. Introduction

Threat classification is essential to understanding the state, pressures and management interventions required to conserve biodiversity. The New Zealand Threat Classification System (NZTCS) provides a tool for assigning a threat status to candidate taxa at the national scale (Townsend et al, 2008). The Department of Conservation (DOC) uses the NZTCS to manage indigenous taxa nationally but regional and district councils have a statutory obligation to manage the habitats of threatened taxa locally under the Resource Management Act, 1991. So, while the NZTCS is essential for environmental management at the national scale, local government also needs local threat classification data for managing and protecting biodiversity within their regions.

As has been detailed in regional threat classifications for indigenous lizards and plants (Crisp 2020a; Crisp 2020b), a methodology to create regional threat lists was developed by a collaborative group comprising representatives from DOC, regional councils and a local authority. This regional threat listing methodology leverages off the NZTCS and is detailed in Section 2 below.

The need for a regional threat list is evidenced by the ongoing loss of taxa from the Wellington region. While a particular bird taxon may not be nationally threatened, taxa need to be retained across their entire natural range. The loss of taxa from part of their range is the 'tip of the iceberg', potentially affecting a cascade of other taxa and ecosystem processes. The loss of a taxon from a region may also result in the extirpation of a local form, type or variety of that species, diminishing the wealth of natural heritage. One of the keys to halting/reversing biodiversity decline is knowing where the declines are occurring. A regional threat list aids the identification of those losses at a local level and helps inform national and global conservation status assessments.

## 2. Methods

This report covers the native bird species of the Wellington region. The national conservation status was derived from Robertson et al 2016. The regional status was initially determined by an expert panel comprised of Hugh Robertson, Lyn Adams and Nikki McArthur in 2014. Conservation and survey actions for bird species in the region were also identified. The panel reconvened in 2019 to update the regional threat list and identify potential conservation management actions.

The process for the regional threat listing was to firstly identify all the native bird species present in the Wellington region. The NZTCS criteria were then used to assign the regional threat status to Nationally Threatened and At Risk bird species in the region. If the regional population of a species had more than 20% of the national population, then the region was identified as a National Stronghold and the NZTCS criteria were applied. For Nationally Not

Threatened species, the regional population threshold was applied. In the Wellington region, the population threshold was set at less than 1,000 mature individuals present or a habitat occupancy area of less than 500ha. If the population was not stable or increasing/decreasing by more than ten percent, the NZTCS criteria were used to determine the regional threat status. Regional qualifiers included the natural and historic range limits. The process for determining the regional threat status of a species is shown in Appendix 1.

### **3. Results**

There were 71 native bird taxa identified as being resident in the Wellington region, with resident meaning that greater than 25% of the population spends more than 50% of their lifecycle in the region. Forty three native bird taxa (61 percent) were identified as being Regionally Threatened. Twenty-five (58 percent) of these were listed as Regionally Critical (Appendix 2; Table 2.1). Of these, four were Nationally Critical, one Nationally Endangered and four Nationally Vulnerable. The remaining taxa were Nationally At Risk (12 taxa), or Nationally Relict (4 taxa). All taxa, except for two taxa, had small population sizes (less than 250 breeding individuals), making those taxa vulnerable to regional extirpation. The two taxa with larger population sizes were eastern bar-tailed godwit and lesser knot, neither of which breed in New Zealand, but are regarded as resident as more than 25% of the population spend more than 50% of their life-cycle in the region.

Four (9 percent) Regionally Endangered native bird taxa were identified (Appendix 2; Table 2.2). Of these, one was Nationally Endangered and one was Nationally Declining, while two were Nationally Not Threatened. Fourteen (33 percent) Regionally Vulnerable taxa were identified (Appendix 2; Table 2.3), one of which was listed as Nationally Vulnerable, ten as Nationally At Risk and three as Nationally Not Threatened.

Six native bird taxa (7 percent) were assessed as being Regionally At Risk; one Regionally Declining, four Regionally Recovering and one Regionally Naturally Uncommon (Appendix 2; Tables 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6). The remaining 21 resident taxa were listed as Regionally Not Threatened (Appendix 2; Table 2.7).

Non-resident native bird taxa are those whose natural presence in New Zealand is either discontinuous (Migrant), sporadic or temporary (Vagrant) or have established a resident population in relatively recent times (Coloniser). Fifty-one migrant bird taxa were identified as having been recorded in the Wellington region (Appendix 2; Table 2.8), along with sixty-three vagrant taxa (Appendix 2; Table 2.9). One Coloniser has been recorded in the region (Appendix 2; Table 2.10).

Five native bird taxa were identified as being Regionally Extirpated (i.e. locally extinct), all of which were Nationally Threatened species (Appendix 2; Table 2.11). Thirty resident introduced and naturalised bird taxa, (with estimates of population sizes) have also been listed (Appendix 2; Table 2.12).

Management and survey actions for the Regionally Threatened bird taxa; (Regionally Critical, Endangered and Vulnerable) are detailed in Appendix 3; Tables 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3) and for Regionally At Risk species in Appendix 3; Tables 3.4, 3.5 and 3.6).

#### 4. Discussion

The proportion of regionally Threatened native bird taxa in the Wellington region (61 percent) is very high. Some of these taxa are present in the region in managed sanctuaries such as Kapiti Island, Mana Island and Zealandia, but even if those species are not included in the assessment, nearly 50% of the region's native bird taxa were found to be Regionally Threatened. A further five taxa were found to have been regionally extirpated. This threat status is testament to the pressures that our New Zealand fauna face and it is valuable to highlight where differences can be made in the conservation of these taxa.

The regional threat list for birds in the Wellington region was first developed in 2014, but was not published at that time. It was used however to drive a number of monitoring and survey actions which, since that time, have greatly added to our understanding of the diversity and abundance of bird taxa in the region. The Wetland Health monitoring programme has begun to provide information about the presence of specialist wetland birds (Crisp et al 2018a, 2018b and 2019), while the ongoing Wairarapa Moana bird monitoring has supplied key data for particular species, such as matuku / bittern (Cheyne 2018) and the management of water levels in Lake Wairarapa. Riverine surveys have enhanced our knowledge of the status of river-nesting birds (McArthur and Burgin 2017; McArthur and Ray 2018), while the coastal bird survey (McArthur et al 2019) provided an opportunity to not only gather information about the location of the most important bird areas, but also for the first time to estimate the regional population size of a number of bird taxa. This was particularly important for those taxa that nest in both freshwater and marine environments (eg banded dotterels that nest along rivers and at the coast).

The regional and forest bird monitoring data collected from the ongoing State of the Environment and management outcome monitoring programmes provides a picture of the status of native bird species in the region (Uys 2019). Collation of data collected for over 15 years (since 2005) at Wainuiomata Mainland Island has been instrumental in aiding management decision-making, while the Wellington City Council bird monitoring that began in 2011 has provided both baseline and trend information for Predator-free Wellington, as the pest control programme is rolled out across the city (McArthur et al 2019; McArthur et al 2020).

Following the understanding of the threat status of nesting river bird taxa good progress has been made in conjunction with the Flood Protection Department at GWRC to improve flood protection practices to protect to river-nesting bird habitat. A Code of Practice has been developed by the department that details how flood protection activities will be undertaken in

relation to these birds and learnings over the years have made the protection of river-nesting bird habitat more practical.

The information provided in this report can aid decision-making by both the regional and district councils, including in the consideration of consenting proposals . The regional council will benefit from decisions made around waterways, wetlands and the coastal marine area, while territorial authorities are responsible for biodiversity on land under the Resource Management Act.

Maintaining the ecosystems and taxa that are still surviving in the region is key to “halting the decline”. Each bird taxon has its own habitat range and requirements, which need to be understood for a difference to be made. Some sites, such as Wairarapa Moana, Kapiti Island and Mana Island support a diversity of bird taxa of conservation concern, but Threatened and At Risk taxa are spread across the region, including on private land. Understanding the occupancy of these taxa of conservation concern is key to their protection and halting biodiversity decline.

## **5. Acknowledgements**

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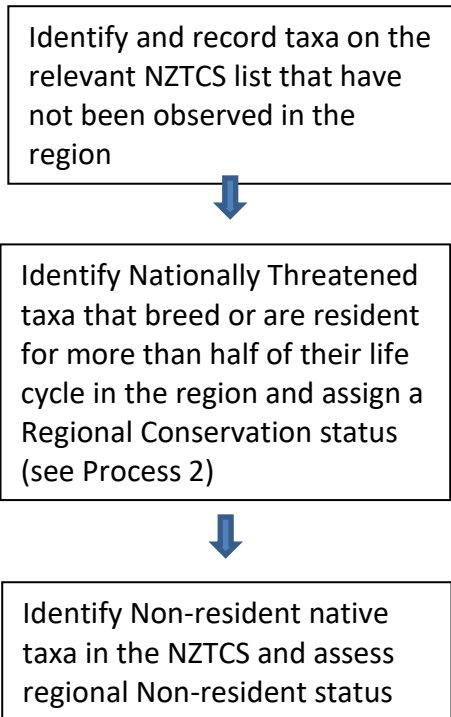
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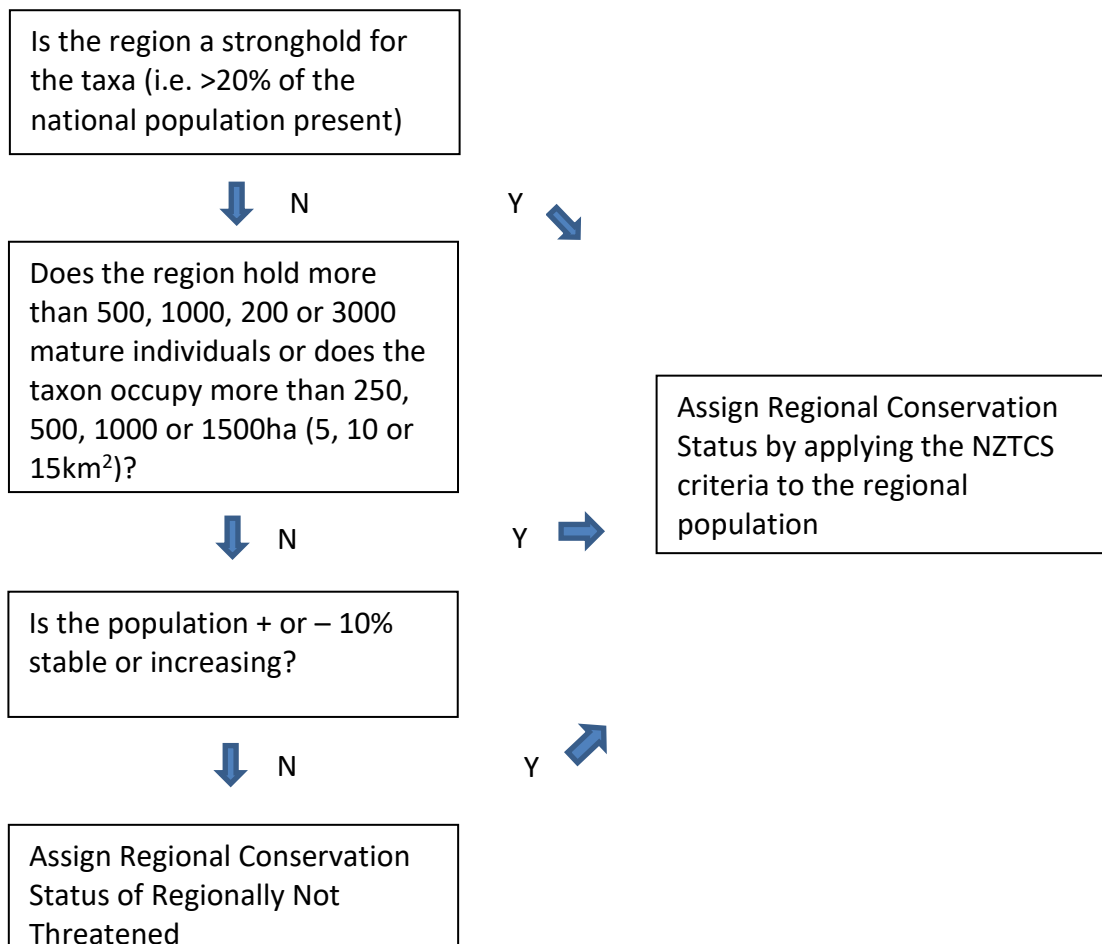
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## Appendix 1: Process for determining the regional threat status of a species

### Process 1: Determination of regional threat status



### Process 2: Determination of strongholds and Regionally Not Threatened species



## Appendix 2: Regional conservation status of native bird species of the Wellington region

Table 2.1: Regionally Critical native bird species

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	National Stronghold	Regional Population	Regional Breeding Population	Regional Trend	Regional Confidence Population	Regional Confidence Trend	Regional Qualifiers
<i>Anas chlorotis</i>	Brown teal	Recovering	No	<250	<250	±10% stable	Quantitative	Qualitative	CD, RR
<i>Anas superciliosa superciliosa</i>	Grey duck	Nationally Critical	No	<250	<250	>70% decline	Expert opinion	Expert opinion	DP, SO, PE
<i>Apteryx australis australis</i>	Fiordland tokoeka	Nationally Endangered	No	<250	<50	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, OL, St, IN
<i>Apteryx mantelli</i>	North Island brown kiwi	Declining	No	<250	<250	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, Inc, RR, IN
<i>Apteryx rowi</i>	Rowi, Okarito brown kiwi	Nationally Vulnerable	No	<50	<50	>10% increase	Quantitative	Expert opinion	CD, Inc, OL, RN
<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	Bittern	Nationally Critical	No	<250	<250	±10% stable	Quantitative	Expert opinion	DP, Sp, TO
<i>Bowdleria punctata vealeae</i>	North Island fernbird	Declining	No	<250	<250	—	Qualitative	—	DP
<i>Calidris canutus rogersi</i>	Lesser knot	Nationally Vulnerable	No	<50	N/A	10-70% decline	Quantitative	Expert opinion	TO
<i>Callaeas wilsoni</i>	North Island kokako	Recovering	No	<250	<250	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, Inc, RR, RN
<i>Charadrius obscurus aquilonius</i>	Northern New Zealand dotterel	Recovering	No	<50	<50	>10% increase	Quantitative	Qualitative	CD, Inc, OL, NR
<i>Egretta sacra sacra</i>	Reef heron	Nationally Endangered	No	<50	<50	10-50% decline	Quantitative	Qualitative	DP, SO, Sp
<i>Falco novaeseelandiae "bush"</i>	Bush falcon	Recovering	No	<250	<250	>10% increase	Quantitative	Qualitative	Inc, Sp

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	National Stronghold	Regional Population	Regional Breeding Population	Regional Trend	Regional Confidence Population	Regional Confidence Trend	Regional Qualifiers
<i>Fulica atra australis</i>	Australian coot	Naturally Uncommon	No	<250	<250	±10% stable	Quantitative	Qualitative	SO
<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Caspian tern	Nationally Vulnerable	No	<250	<50	10-50% decline	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, OL, SO, Sp
<i>Larus bulleri</i>	Black-billed gull	Nationally Critical	No	250-1000	<250	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	Inc, OL
<i>Limosa lapponica baueri</i>	Eastern bar-tailed godwit	Declining	No	<250	N/A	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	EF, RR, TO
<i>Notiomystis cincta</i>	Stitchbird	Nationally Vulnerable	No	<250	<250	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, RR, RN
<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>	Fairy prion	Relict	No	5000-20000	<250	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, OL, RF, SO, RN
<i>Pelagodroma marina maoriana</i>	New Zealand white-faced storm petrel	Relict	No	1000-5000	<50	—	Qualitative		CD, DP, OL
<i>Pelecanoides urinatrix urinatrix</i>	Northern diving petrel	Relict	No	1000-5000	<50	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, Inc, OL, SO, RN
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo novaehollandiae</i>	Black shag	Naturally Uncommon	No	250-1000	<250	10-50% decline	Quantitative	Quantitative	SO, Sp
<i>Porphyrio hochstetteri</i>	Takahe	Nationally Critical	—	<50	<50	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, RR, IN
<i>Porzana pusilla affinis</i>	Marsh crake	Declining	No	<250	<50	±10% stable	Qualitative	Expert opinion	DP, Sp
<i>Puffinus gavia</i>	Fluttering shearwater	Relict	No	5000-20000	<250	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, RR, RN
<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	Sooty shearwater	Declining	No	<250	<250	±10% stable	Qualitative	Expert opinion	CD, PD, RF, SO

**Regional qualifiers: SO=Secure Overseas, CD=Conservation Dependent, RR=Range Restricted, De=Designated, OL=One Location, Sp=Sparse, EF=Extreme Fluctuation, TO=Threatened Overseas, St=Stable, DP=Data Poor, PD=Partial Decline, RF=Recruitment Failure, RN=Restored Native, IN=Introduced Native, Inc=Increasing, NR=Natural Range limit**

**Table 2.2: Regionally Endangered native bird species**

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	National Stronghold	Regional Population	Regional Breeding Population	Regional Trend	Regional Confidence Population	Regional Confidence Trend	Regional Qualifiers
<i>Cyanoramphus auriceps</i>	Yellow-crowned parakeet	Not Threatened	No	250-1000	250-1000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Qualitative	CD, EF, Sp
<i>Porzana tabuensis tabuensis</i>	Spotless crane	Declining	No	250-1000	250-1000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Expert opinion	DP, SO, Sp
<i>Sterna striata striata</i>	White-fronted tern	Declining	No	1000-5000	250-1000	10-50% decline	Qualitative	Expert opinion	DP
<i>Stictocarbo punctatus punctatus</i>	Spotted shag	Not Threatened	No	250-1000	250-1000	10-50% decline	Quantitative	Quantitative	OL

Regional qualifiers: CD=Conservation Dependent, Sp=Sparse, EF=Extreme Fluctuation.

**Table 2.3: Regionally Vulnerable native bird species**

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	National Stronghold	Regional Population	Regional Breeding Population	Regional Trend	Regional Confidence Population	Regional Confidence Trend	Regional Qualifiers
<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae novaeseelandiae</i>	New Zealand pipit	Declining	No	1000-5000	1000-5000	10-30% decline	Qualitative	Expert opinion	DP, Sp
<i>Apteryx owenii</i>	Little spotted kiwi	Recovering	Yes	1000-5000	1000-5000	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, RR, St, NS
<i>Aythya novaeseelandiae</i>	New Zealand scaup	Not Threatened	No	250-1000	250-1000	>10% increase	Quantitative	Qualitative	DP, Inc
<i>Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus</i>	Banded dotterel	Nationally Vulnerable	No	250-1000	250-1000	>10% increase	Quantitative	Qualitative	RR
<i>Elsyornis melanops</i>	Black-fronted dotterel	Naturally Uncommon	Yes	250-1000	250-1000	>10% increase	Quantitative	Qualitative	RR, SO, Sp, NS
<i>Eudyptula minor iredalei</i>	Northern blue penguin	Declining	No	1000-5000	1000-5000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Expert opinion	CD, DP, PD, St
<i>Haematopus unicolor</i>	Variable oystercatcher	Recovering	No	250-1000	250-1000	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, Inc
<i>Himantopus himantopus leucocephalus</i>	Pied stilt	Not Threatened	No	1000-5000	250-1000	10-50% decline	Quantitative	Quantitative	De, SO
<i>Larus novaehollandiae scopulinus</i>	Red-billed gull	Declining	No	5000-20000	1000-5000	10-30% decline	Quantitative	Qualitative	DP
<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos brevirostris</i>	Little shag	Not Threatened	No	1000-5000	250-1000	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	Inc
<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	Little black shag	Naturally Uncommon	No	250-1000	250-1000	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	Inc, OL
<i>Phalacrocorax varius varius</i>	Pied shag	Recovering	No	250-1000	250-1000	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	Inc

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	National Stronghold	Regional Population	Regional Breeding Population	Regional Trend	Regional Confidence Population	Regional Confidence Trend	Regional Qualifiers
<i>Philesturnus rufusater</i>	North Island saddleback	Recovering	No	1000-5000	1000-5000	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, Inc, RR, RN
<i>Poliocephalus rufopectus</i>	New Zealand dabchick	Recovering	Yes	250-1000	250-1000	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	St, NR, NS

Regional qualifiers: SO=Secure Overseas, CD=Conservation Dependent, RR=Range Restricted, De=Designated, OL=One Location, Sp=Sparse, St=Stable, DP=Data Poor, RN=Restored Native, Inc=Increasing, NR=Natural Range limit, NS=National Stronghold



**Table 2.4: Regionally Declining native bird species**

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	National Stronghold	Regional Population	Regional Breeding Population	Regional Trend	Regional Confidence Population	Regional Confidence Trend	Regional Qualifiers
<i>Acanthisitta chloris granti</i>	North Island rifleman	Declining	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	10-30% decline	Qualitative	Expert opinion	CD, DP, EF, PD

Regional qualifiers: CD=Conservation Dependent, DP=Data Poor, EF=Extreme Fluctuations, PD=Partial Decline

**Table 2.5: Regionally Recovering native bird species**

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	National Stronghold	Regional Population	Regional Breeding Population	Regional Trend	Regional Confidence Population	Regional Confidence Trend	Regional Qualifiers
<i>Anas gracilis</i>	Grey teal	Not Threatened	No	1000-5000	1000-5000	>10% increase	Quantitative	Qualitative	Inc, SO
<i>Cyanoramphus novaezelandiae novaezelandiae</i>	Red-crowned parakeet	Relict	No	1000-5000	1000-5000	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, Inc
<i>Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae</i>	New Zealand pigeon, kereru	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	>10% increase	Qualitative	Quantitative	CD, Inc
<i>Nestor meridionalis septentrionalis</i>	North Island kaka	Recovering	Yes	1000-5000	1000-5000	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, Inc, NS

Regional qualifiers: CD=Conservation Dependent, Inc=Increasing, SO=Secure Overseas, NS=National Stronghold

**Table 2.6: Regionally Naturally Uncommon native bird species**

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	National Stronghold	Regional Population	Regional Breeding Population	Regional Trend	Regional Confidence Population	Regional Confidence Trend	Regional Qualifiers
<i>Eudynamys taitensis</i>	Long-tailed cuckoo	Naturally Uncommon	No	250-1000	250-1000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Expert opinion	CD, DP, St

Regional qualifiers: CD=Conservation Dependent, DP=Data Poor, St=Stable

**Table 2.7: Regionally Not Threatened native bird species**

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	National Stronghold	Regional Population	Regional Breeding Population	Regional Trend	Regional Confidence Population	Regional Confidence Trend	Regional Qualifiers
<i>Anas rhynchos variegata</i>	New Zealand shoveler	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	±10% stable	Quantitative	Qualitative	De
<i>Anthornis melanura melanura</i>	Bellbird	Not Threatened	No	20000-100000	20000-100000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Qualitative	CD
<i>Chrysococcyx lucidus lucidus</i>	Shining cuckoo	Not Threatened	No	1000-5000	1000-5000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Qualitative	De, DP, St
<i>Circus approximans</i>	Swamp harrier	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Qualitative	DP, SO, Sp, St
<i>Cygnus atratus</i>	Black swan	Not Threatened	Yes	5000-20000	5000-20000	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	SO, St, NS
<i>Egretta novaehollandiae</i>	White-faced heron	Not Threatened	No	1000-5000	1000-5000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Quantitative	De, SO, Sp, St
<i>Gallirallus australis greyi</i>	North Island weka	Recovering	Yes	1000-5000	1000-5000	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	CD, OL, St, RN, NS
<i>Gerygone igata</i>	Grey warbler	Not Threatened	No	20000-100000	20000-100000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Quantitative	
<i>Hirundo neoxena neoxena</i>	Welcome swallow	Not Threatened	No	20000-100000	20000-100000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Quantitative	DP, SO

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	National Stronghold	Regional Population	Regional Breeding Population	Regional Trend	Regional Confidence Population	Regional Confidence Trend	Regional Qualifiers
<i>Larus dominicanus dominicanus</i>	Southern black-backed gull	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	De, DP, SO
<i>Mohoua albicilla</i>	Whitehead	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Quantitative	CD
<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae novaeseelandiae</i>	Morepork	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	±10% stable	Expert opinion	Quantitative	
<i>Petroica longipes</i>	North Island robin	Declining	No	1000-5000	1000-5000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Quantitative	CD, De, St
<i>Petroica macrocephala toitoi</i>	Pied tomtit	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Qualitative	CD
<i>Porphyrio melanotus melanotus</i>	Pukeko	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	>10% increase	Qualitative	Qualitative	SO, St
<i>Prothemadera novaeseelandiae novaeseelandiae</i>	Tui	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	>10% increase	Qualitative	Qualitative	CD, St
<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa placabilis</i>	North Island fantail	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Quantitative	EF
<i>Tadorna variegata</i>	Paradise shelduck	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	±10% stable	Quantitative	Quantitative	
<i>Todiramphus sanctus vagans</i>	Sacred kingfisher	Not Threatened	No	1000-5000	1000-5000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Qualitative	De, DP, Sp
<i>Vanellus miles novaehollandiae</i>	Spur-winged plover	Not Threatened	No	5000-20000	5000-20000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Quantitative	De, SO
<i>Zosterops lateralis lateralis</i>	Silvereye	Not Threatened	No	>100000	>100000	±10% stable	Qualitative	Quantitative	SO

Regional qualifiers: SO=Secure Overseas, CD=Conservation Dependent, OL=One Location, Sp=Sparse, St=Stable, DP=Data Poor, RN=Restored Native, , NS=National Stronghold, De=Designated.

**Table 2.8: Regional Migrant bird species**

<b>Name and Authority</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>National Conservation Status</b>	<b>Regional Population</b>	<b>Regional Confidence Population</b>
<i>Anarhynchus frontalis</i>	Wrybill	Nationally Vulnerable	<50	Quantitative
<i>Ardea modesta</i>	White heron	Nationally Critical	<50	Quantitative
<i>Chlidonias albostratus</i>	Black-fronted tern	Nationally Endangered	250-1000	Quantitative
<i>Coprotheres pomarinus</i>	Pomarine skua	Migrant	<250	Qualitative
<i>Daption capense australe</i>	Snares Cape pigeon	Naturally Uncommon	5000-20000	Qualitative
<i>Daption capense capense</i>	Cape pigeon	Migrant	<250	Qualitative
<i>Diomedea antipodensis antipodensis</i>	Antipodean wandering albatross	Nationally Critical	<250	Qualitative
<i>Diomedea antipodensis gibsoni</i>	Gibson's wandering albatross	Nationally Critical	<250	Qualitative
<i>Diomedea epomophora epomophora</i>	Southern royal albatross	Naturally Uncommon	250-1000	Qualitative
<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>	Northern royal albatross	Naturally Uncommon	250-1000	Qualitative
<i>Fregetta tropica</i>	Black-bellied storm petrel	Not Threatened	<250	Qualitative
<i>Fulmarus glacialoides</i>	Antarctic fulmar	Migrant	<250	Qualitative
<i>Garrodia nereis</i>	Grey-backed storm petrel	Relict	250-1000	Quantitative
<i>Haematopus finschi</i>	New Zealand pied oystercatcher	Declining	250-1000	Quantitative
<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>	Blue petrel	Migrant	<250	Qualitative
<i>Lugensa brevirostris</i>	Kerguelen petrel	Migrant	<250	Qualitative
<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Southern giant petrel	Migrant	<250	Qualitative
<i>Macronectes halli</i>	Northern giant petrel	Naturally Uncommon	250-1000	Qualitative

<b>Name and Authority</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>National Conservation Status</b>	<b>Regional Population</b>	<b>Regional Confidence Population</b>
<i>Morus serrator</i>	Australasian gannet	Not Threatened	5000-20000	Qualitative
<i>Oceanites oceanicus exasperatus</i>	Wilson's storm petrel	Migrant	<250	Qualitative
<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>	Narrow-billed prion	Migrant	250-1000	Qualitative
<i>Pachyptila crassirostris crassirostris</i>	Fulmar prion	Naturally Uncommon	<250	Qualitative
<i>Pachyptila crassirostris flemingi</i>	Lesser fulmar prion	Naturally Uncommon	<250	Qualitative
<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>	Antarctic prion	Naturally Uncommon	250-1000	Qualitative
<i>Pachyptila salvini</i>	Salvin's prion	Migrant	250-1000	Qualitative
<i>Pachyptila vittata</i>	Broad-billed prion	Relict	1000-5000	Quantitative
<i>Pelecanoides urinatrix exsul</i>	Subantarctic diving petrel	Not Threatened	<250	—
<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	Pacific golden plover	Migrant	<250	Quantitative
<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	White-chinned petrel	Not Threatened	<250	Qualitative
<i>Procellaria parkinsoni</i>	Black petrel	Nationally Vulnerable	250-1000	Quantitative
<i>Procellaria westlandica</i>	Westland petrel	Naturally Uncommon	1000-5000	Qualitative
<i>Pterodroma axillaris</i>	Chatham Island petrel	Nationally Vulnerable	<250	Qualitative
<i>Pterodroma lessonii</i>	White-headed petrel	Not Threatened	<250	Qualitative
<i>Pterodroma macroptera gouldi</i>	Grey-faced petrel	Not Threatened	<250	Qualitative
<i>Pterodroma magentae</i>	Chatham Island taiko	Nationally Critical	<50	Quantitative
<i>Pterodroma nigripennis</i>	Black-winged petrel	Not Threatened	<250	Qualitative
<i>Puffinus assimilis haurakiensis</i>	North Island little shearwater	Recovering	250-1000	Quantitative

<b>Name and Authority</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>National Conservation Status</b>	<b>Regional Population</b>	<b>Regional Confidence Population</b>
<i>Puffinus bulleri</i>	Buller's shearwater	Naturally Uncommon	250-1000	Qualitative
<i>Puffinus carneipes</i>	Flesh-footed shearwater	Nationally Vulnerable	250-1000	Qualitative
<i>Puffinus huttoni</i>	Hutton's shearwater	Nationally Vulnerable	20000-100000	Qualitative
<i>Puffinus tenuirostris</i>	Short-tailed shearwater	Migrant	5000-20000	Qualitative
<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Arctic skua	Migrant	250-1000	Qualitative
<i>Sterna striata aucklandorn</i>	Southern white-fronted tern	Nationally Vulnerable	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Thalassarche bulleri bulleri</i>	Southern Buller's mollymawk	Naturally Uncommon	<250	Qualitative
<i>Thalassarche bulleri platei</i>	Northern Buller's mollymawk	Naturally Uncommon	<250	Qualitative
<i>Thalassarche cauta steadi</i>	New Zealand white-capped mollymawk	Declining	1000-5000	—
<i>Thalassarche chrysostoma</i>	Grey-headed mollymawk	Nationally Vulnerable	<250	Qualitative
<i>Thalassarche eremita</i>	Chatham Island mollymawk	Naturally Uncommon	<250	Qualitative
<i>Thalassarche impavida</i>	Campbell Island mollymawk	Nationally Vulnerable	<250	Qualitative
<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	Black-browed mollymawk	Coloniser	<250	Quantitative
<i>Thalassarche salvini</i>	Salvin's mollymawk	Nationally Critical	1000-5000	Qualitative

**Table 2.9: Regional Vagrant bird species**

<b>Name and Authority</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>National Conservation Status</b>	<b>Regional Population</b>	<b>Regional Confidence Population</b>
<i>Anas castanea</i>	Chestnut teal	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Anhinga melanogaster novaehollandiae</i>	Australian darter	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>	Emperor penguin	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Ardea ibis coromanda</i>	Eastern cattle egret	Migrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Turnstone	Migrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Bulweria bulwerii</i>	Bulwer's petrel	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed sandpiper	Migrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew sandpiper	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Pectoral sandpiper	Vagrant	N/A	
<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>	Red-necked stint	Migrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Catharacta antarctica lonnbergi</i>	Brown skua	Naturally Uncommon	N/A	—
<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>	South Polar skua	Migrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Chlidonias hybridus javanicus</i>	Whiskered tern	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	White-winged black tern	Migrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	Black-faced cuckoo-shrike	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Cuculus optatus</i>	Oriental cuckoo	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Egretta garzetta immaculata</i>	Little Egret	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Eudyptes filholi</i>	Eastern rockhopper penguin	Nationally Vulnerable	N/A	Quantitative

<b>Name and Authority</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>National Conservation Status</b>	<b>Regional Population</b>	<b>Regional Confidence Population</b>
<i>Eudyptes pachyrhynchus</i>	Fiordland crested penguin	Nationally Vulnerable	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Eudyptes robustus</i>	Snares crested penguin	Naturally Uncommon	N/A	—
<i>Eudyptes sclateri</i>	Erect-crested penguin	Declining	N/A	—
<i>Falco cenchroides cenchroides</i>	Nankeen Kestrel	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Japanese snipe	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Gallirallus philippensis assimilis</i>	Banded rail	Declining	Nil	Qualitative
<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	Gull-billed tern	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Gygis alba candida</i>	Pacific white tern	Nationally Critical	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Himantopus novaezelandiae</i>	Black stilt	Nationally Critical	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Limosa haemastica</i>	Hudsonian godwit	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Limosa limosa melanuroides</i>	Asiatic black-tailed godwit	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Megadyptes antipodes</i>	Yellow-eyed penguin	Nationally Endangered	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Black kite	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Far-eastern curlew	Migrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Numenius minutus</i>	Little whimbrel	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Numenius phaeopus variegatus</i>	Asiatic whimbrel	Migrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Nycticorax caledonicus australasiae</i>	Nankeen night heron	Coloniser	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Pachyptila crassirostris pyramidalis</i>	Chatham fulmar prion	Naturally Uncommon	N/A	—
<i>Petrochelidon ariel</i>	Fairy martin	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative



Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	Regional Population	Regional Confidence Population
<i>Petrochelidon nigricans</i>	Tree martin	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>	Light-mantled sooty albatross	Declining	N/A	—
<i>Platalea flavipes</i>	Yellow-billed spoonbill	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Glossy ibis	Coloniser	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>	Grey petrel	Naturally Uncommon	N/A	—
<i>Pterodroma cookii</i>	Cook's petrel	Relict	N/A	—
<i>Pterodroma inexpectata</i>	Mottled petrel	Relict	N/A	—
<i>Pterodroma pycrofti</i>	Pycroft's petrel	Recovering	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Puffinus pacificus pacificus</i>	Wedge-tailed shearwater	Relict	N/A	—
<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	Manx shearwater	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa fuliginosa</i>	South Island fantail	Not Threatened	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	Long-tailed skua	Migrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Sterna bergii cristata</i>	Greater crested tern	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Sterna hirundo longipennis</i>	Common tern	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Arctic tern	Migrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Sternula albifrons sinensis</i>	Little tern	Migrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Sula leucogaster plotus</i>	Brown booby	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae novaehollandiae</i>	Australasian little grebe	Coloniser	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Tadorna tadornoides</i>	Chestnut-breasted shelduck	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	Regional Population	Regional Confidence Population
<i>Tringa brevipes</i>	Siberian tattler	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Tringa cinerea</i>	Terek sandpiper	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	Lesser yellowlegs	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>	Common sandpiper	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Tringa incana</i>	Wandering tattler	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Greenshank	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative
<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	Marsh sandpiper	Vagrant	N/A	Quantitative

**Table 2.10: Regional Coloniser bird species**

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status	National Stronghold	Regional Population	Regional Breeding Population	Regional Trend	Regional Confidence Population	Regional Confidence Trend	Regional Qualifiers
<i>Platalea regia</i>	Royal spoonbill	Naturally Uncommon	No	<250	<250	>10% increase	Quantitative	Quantitative	Inc, RR, SO

Regional qualifiers: Inc=Increasing, RR=Range Restricted, SO=Secure Overseas

**Table 2.11: Regionally Extirpated bird species**

Name and Authority	Common Name	National Conservation Status
<i>Sternula nereis davisae</i>	New Zealand fairy tern	Nationally Critical
<i>Strigops habroptilus</i>	Kakapo	Nationally Critical
<i>Thinornis novaeseelandiae</i>	New Zealand shore plover	Nationally Critical
<i>Pealeornis maoriana</i>	New Zealand storm petrel	Nationally Endangered
<i>Hymenolaimus malacorhynchos</i>	Blue duck, whio	Nationally Vulnerable

**Table 2.12: Introduced and naturalised bird species in the Wellington region**

Name and Authority	Common Name	Regional Population	Regional Confidence Population
<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Common myna	<250	Qualitative
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Eurasian skylark	20000-100000	Qualitative
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Mallard	20000-100000	Qualitative
<i>Anser anser</i>	Feral (greylag) goose	250-1000	Qualitative
<i>Branta canadensis</i>	Canada goose	5000-20000	Qualitative
<i>Cacatua galerita</i>	Sulphur-crested cockatoo	<250	Qualitative
<i>Callipepla californica</i>	California quail	1000-5000	Qualitative
<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	European goldfinch	20000-100000	Qualitative
<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	European greenfinch	>100000	Qualitative
<i>Carduelis flammea</i>	Common redpoll	5000-20000	Qualitative
<i>Cereopsis novaehollandiae</i>	Cape Barren goose	<250	Qualitative

<b>Name and Authority</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Regional Population</b>	<b>Regional Confidence Population</b>
<i>Columba livia</i>	Rock pigeon	5000-20000	Qualitative
<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	Rook	<250	Qualitative
<i>Cygnus olor</i>	Mute swan	<250	Qualitative
<i>Emberiza cirius</i>	Cirl bunting	<250	Qualitative
<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Yellowhammer	20000-100000	Qualitative
<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Chaffinch	>100000	Qualitative
<i>Gallus gallus gallus</i>	Feral chicken	<250	Qualitative
<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	Australian magpie	20000-100000	Qualitative
<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	Wild turkey	250-1000	Qualitative
<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House sparrow	>100000	Qualitative
<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	Peafowl	<250	Qualitative
<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Common pheasant	1000-5000	Qualitative
<i>Platycercus elegans</i>	Crimson rosella	<250	Qualitative
<i>Platycercus eximius</i>	Eastern rosella	5000-20000	Qualitative
<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Dunnock	>100000	Qualitative
<i>Streptopelia risoria</i>	Barbary dove	<250	Qualitative
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Common starling	>100000	Qualitative
<i>Turdus merula</i>	Eurasian blackbird	>100000	Qualitative
<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Song thrush	20000-100000	Qualitative

### Appendix 3: Management and survey actions for Regionally Threatened and At Risk bird species in the Wellington region

Table 3.1: Management and survey actions for Regionally Critical species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
<i>Anas chlorotis</i> "North Island"	Brown teal	This species is thought to be present in Kapiti wetlands. There have been translocations to some sites by Ducks Unlimited. They are present on Kapiti Island and in Zealandia	Keep a watching brief	Surveys of Kapiti wetlands should be completed	DOC, Zealandia, GWRC
<i>Anas superciliosa superciliosa</i>	Grey duck	Functionally extinct as driver of loss (hybridisation with mallards) cannot effectively be managed. May be a few pure-breed birds in Eastern Wairarapa	N/A	N/A	DOC
<i>Apteryx australis australis</i>	Fiordland tokoeka	Breeding on Kapiti Island	DOC	DOC	DOC
<i>Apteryx mantelli</i>	North Island brown kiwi	Largely managed by DOC (Pukaha) and Remutaka Forest Trust (Remutaka Forest Park), but some birds have entered Wainuiomata Mainland Island. GWRC supports Pukaha with pest control. Mustelids and dogs are the main threats.	Continue pest management at current sites	Continue monitoring at current sites	DOC, Remutaka Forest Trust, GWRC
<i>Apteryx rowi</i>	Rowi, Okarito brown kiwi	Managed by DOC (Mana Island)	DOC	DOC	DOC
<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	Bittern	National stronghold for breeding, but only known sites are at Wairarapa Moana and one wetland on the Kapiti Coast. May be more breeding sites in region not identified, e.g. on Kapiti Coast or in Eastern Wairarapa, but no new sites have been found in recent times. Threatened by predators (mainly mustelids and cats), as well as habitat loss.	Improve pest management and monitoring at Wairarapa Moana and Kapiti site	Continue to survey wetlands in the region as part of the GWRC Wetland Health monitoring programme	GWRC, DOC

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
<i>Bowdleria punctata vealeae</i>	North Island fernbird	Re-colonising after local extirpation. Thought to be breeding at Waikanae on the Kapiti Coast and at Te Harakeke. Fernbird have been translocated to Pauatahanui Inlet	Pest control should be maintained at Waikanae, Te Harakeke and Pauatahanui Inlet	Periodic surveys should be undertaken to assess species status	DOC, GWRC
<i>Calidris canutus rogersi</i>	Lesser knot	Threats are of international concern and New Zealand can only play a small role in improving the threat status of this species	N/A	Continue to monitor at Wairarapa Moana	DOC, GWRC
<i>Callaeas wilsoni</i>	North Island kokako	Managed by DOC (Kapiti Island, Pukaha)	DOC	DOC	DOC
<i>Charadrius obscurus aquilonius</i>	Northern New Zealand dotterel	This species is a recent arrival in the Wellington region and has migrated from the north. Breeding has occurred at Riversdale Beach since 2009, with new breeding sites located at five additional sites in eastern Wairarapa during the 2017 coastal survey. Breeding has also been recorded at Waikanae Estuary.	Continue management at Riversdale and Waikanae Estuary	Continue monitoring at Riversdale. Check for new breeding sites during coastal surveys	Forest and Bird, GWRC, DOC
<i>Egretta sacra sacra</i>	Reef heron	Monitoring indicates a rapid decline in numbers. Disturbance, predation and dogs are known threats. Only fifteen individuals were counted in the 2017-2019 coastal survey. Known nesting sites are on Matiu/Somes Island and Taupateranga Island, but little is known about nesting in other areas.	Continue management actions at Matiu/Somes and Taupateranga Islands	Repeat survey of entire coastline in 2022 – 2024 to ascertain population trend Encourage research on nesting success	DOC, WCC, GWRC

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
<i>Falco novaeseelandiae</i> "bush"	Bush falcon	This species is responding where pest control is in place, with mustelids being the most important threat. WCC have found that nests can be protected when traps are increased around their location. The regional population size is based on qualitative data - occupancy modelling would improve this estimate	Continue management where appropriate	Complete occupancy modelling	WCC, GWRC, DOC
<i>Fulica atra australis</i>	Australian coot	Resident breeding on the Kapiti Coast and northern Wairarapa. The species is entirely aquatic and has no known threats	Keep a watching brief	Note presence when completing Wetland Health bird surveys	GWRC
<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Caspian tern	There are few breeding populations in New Zealand and only one known breeding colony in the region - at Onoke Spit. That population needs to be protected and monitored. Disturbance from vehicles and pests such as cats and mustelids are the greatest threats	Continue to work with care-group to complete pest control. Management recommendation report written recently	Assist care-group and Forest and Bird to use cameras to monitor the breeding success of the population	Friends of Onoke Spit, Forest and Bird, DOC, GWRC

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
<i>Larus bulleri</i>	Black-billed gull	Wairarapa population (only population) to remain viable. Threatened by GWRC flood protection activities, pests (mustelids, cats and ferrets) and disturbance.	Continue to work with GWRC Flood Protection on Code of Practice for flood management activities. Apply pest control actions when colony is located.	Colony to be located annually and population size monitored through counts of colony and the Wairarapa Moana lake-edge counts. Where possible chicks should be banded to aid understanding of breeding success, origin of birds and population size.	DOC, GWRC
<i>Limosa lapponica baueri</i>	Eastern bar-tailed godwit	Threats are of international concern and New Zealand can only play a small part in improving the threat status of this species	N/A	Continue to monitor at Wairarapa Moana	DOC, GWRC
<i>Notiomystis cincta</i>	Stitchbird	Managed by DOC on Kapiti Island, also present in Zealandia. Female birds are not persisting outside Zealandia. WCC is intensifying pest control around the area to achieve <5% rat tracking rates and have a policy of dogs on leads. Pest-proof nesting boxes are being trialled and if a nest is found, it is filmed to determine the outcomes. It is not clear what pest control is needed and there is concern that there is not enough food diversity available over winter. A reduction in cat numbers is also thought to be important.	Continue current management and consider what is needed in the long-term, e.g. species to plant that will aid food availability.	Continue current monitoring	WCC, DOC, Zealandia



Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>	Fairy prion	Managed by DOC (coastal marine area, Mana Island)	DOC	DOC	DOC
<i>Pelagodroma marina maoriana</i>	New Zealand white-faced storm petrel	Managed by DOC (coastal marine area, Makaro Island)	DOC	DOC	DOC
<i>Pelecanoides urinatrix urinatrix</i>	Northern diving petrel	Managed by DOC (coastal marine area, Mana Island)	DOC	DOC	DOC
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo novaehollandiae</i>	Black shag	Breeding at Parangarahu Lakes, Wairarapa Moana, Otaki River and Hutt River. Care needs to be taken to minimise threat to the colony through pest plant control activities.	Keep a watching brief	Continue to monitor colonies occasionally	GWRC, DOC
<i>Porphyrio hochstetteri</i>	Takahe	Managed by DOC (Kapiti and Mana Islands) and Zealandia	DOC, Zealandia	DOC, Zealandia	DOC, Zealandia
<i>Porzana pusilla affinis</i>	Marsh crake	Little information is available about the regional distribution of this species. Currently recorded at Wairarapa Moana	Ensure pest plant control operations in wetlands do not disturb marsh crake habitat (willow areas). Institute or continue pest control where presence confirmed	Survey as part of GWRC Wetland Health programme and Wairarapa Moana monitoring	GWRC, DOC
<i>Puffinus gavia</i>	Fluttering shearwater	Managed by DOC (coastal marine area, Matiu/Somes and Mana Islands)	DOC	DOC	DOC
<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	Sooty shearwater	Managed by DOC (coastal marine area, Kapiti Island)	DOC	DOC	DOC

**Table 3.2: Management and survey actions for Regionally Endangered species**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
<i>Cyanoramphus auriceps</i>	Yellow-crowned parakeet	Mana Island is the stronghold for this species, but kakariki are increasing on the mainland, especially the large forests. The main threats are predators (mustelids, rats and cats)	Continue to maintain rat control at sites where pest control is already underway.	Use occupancy modelling to monitor distributional changes	DOC, GWRC
<i>Porzana tabuensis plumbea</i>	Spotless crake	Information on the regional distribution of this species has improved in the past few years, with data gathered from the GWRC wetland surveying programme. Kapiti Coast appears to be a stronghold, but presence also recorded at Wairarapa Moana, Carter's Scenic Reserve and some small wetlands in the Wairarapa	Ensure pest plant control operations in wetlands do not disturb spotless crake habitat as they can be found in willow areas. Institute pest control where presence confirmed. Continue pest control at Wairarapa Moana and other known sites	Continue to survey as part of GWRC Wetland Health programme and Wairarapa Moana monitoring	GWRC DOC
<i>Sterna striata striata</i>	White-fronted tern	Six breeding colonies were counted during the 2017/2018 coastal survey. The species is more abundant and widespread west of Onoke Spit. Threats include depleted food supplies, predators (cats, mustelids and hedgehogs) and disturbance.	Ideally pest control should be in place at some sites, e.g. Castlepoint	Repeat survey of entire coastline in 2022 – 2024 to ascertain population trend	DOC, WCC, GWRC

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
<i>Stictocarbo punctatus punctatus</i>	Spotted shag	Breeding in Wellington Harbour – Matiu-Somes Island, Mokopuna Island, Breaker Bay	DOC	DOC	DOC, WCC

**Table 3.3: Management and survey actions for Regionally Vulnerable bird species**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae novaeseelandiae</i>	New Zealand pipit	This species has a patchy distribution, which covers coastal, subalpine and river habitats, as well as low intensity farmland areas. Land-use intensification, developments and predators are the main threats	A region-wide plan should be developed	Sites where the birds may occur should be identified and occupancy modelling completed	GWRC, DOC
<i>Apteryx owenii</i>	Little spotted kiwi	Managed by DOC (Kapiti) Island and Zealandia	DOC, Zealandia	DOC, Zealandia	DOC, Zealandia
<i>Aythya novaeseelandiae</i>	New Zealand scaup	This species is known to be present at Wairarapa Moana, Parangarahu Lakes and on the northern Kapiti Coast	Continue current management	A survey of the lower North Island would provide useful information about population numbers	DOC, GWRC
<i>Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus</i>	Banded dotterel	The Wairarapa rivers are regional strongholds for this species, with Opouawe River being a particular hotspot. GWRC flood protection activities are a threat. Currently pest control is undertaken at some coastal sites, e.g. Parangarahu Lakes, Riversdale.	Continue to work with GWRC's Flood Protection department to ensure the flood	Continue the surveys recommended as part of the GWRC Flood Protection	MIRO, Darren Lees, GWRC, Forest and Bird

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
			protection activities do not impact the species. Continue current pest control and implement where appropriate.	Code of Practice, the coastal surveys and the Wairarapa Moana counts. Banding appropriate at some sites	
<i>Elseyornis melanops</i>	Black-fronted dotterel	The region is a national stronghold for this species, which is widespread on rivers in the Wairarapa. They are affected by GWRC flood management activities.	Continue to work with GWRC's Flood Protection department to ensure the flood protection activities do not impact the species.	Continue the surveys recommended as part of the GWRC Flood Protection Code of Practice	GWRC
<i>Eudyptula minor iredalei</i>	Northern blue penguin	This species is largely known from the Wellington South Coast. Dogs and mustelids are the main threats, but large development projects in Wellington Harbour could affect habitat during development.	Continue current management. Dog aversion training possibilities should be investigated- also dog rules at breeding sites	Surveys (dusk) should be completed around the Wairarapa Coast. Some of the breeding sites around the harbour have been mapped for Oiled Wildlife Response, but a significant	WCC, care-groups, DOC, GWRC

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
				population has also been found at Mana Island	
<i>Haematopus unicolor</i>	Variable oystercatcher	This species is doing well at Mana Island and at sites where there are lengthy sections of sandy beach. Hedgehogs and cats are the main threats. Large development projects in Wellington Harbour also depletes habitat availability	Predator control should be instigated at selected sites	Repeat survey of entire coastline in 2022 – 2024 to ascertain population trend Continue WCC coastline surveys	GWRC, WCC
<i>Himantopus himantopus leucocephalus</i>	Pied stilt	Threatened by GWRC flood management activities	Continue to work with GWRC's Flood Protection department on the Environmental Code of Practice. Instigate predator control at selected sites	Continue river surveys	GWRC, DOC
<i>Larus novaehollandiae scopulinus</i>	Red-billed gull	These birds live in colonies, e.g. Wairaka. Eight colonies were counted during the 2017/2018 coastal survey, with a significant colony present at Castlepoint	Ideally pest control should be in place at some sites, e.g. Castlepoint.	Repeat survey of entire coastline in 2022 – 2024 to ascertain population trend	DOC
<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos brevirostris</i>	Little shag	Breeding at Day's Bay, Waikanae Estuary and Wairarapa Moana. Main threat thought to be the depletion of prey species	Keep a watching brief	Continue to monitor as part of the coastal surveys	GWRC, DOC

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	Little black shag	Thought to be widespread, but only one colony known in the region - at Wairarapa Moana. Care needs to be taken to minimise threat to the colony through pest plant control activities.	Colony in willow trees - useful to consider planting native trees at the site in Wairarapa Moana for future colony site - kowhai or ngaio suggested	Keep a watching brief	DOC, GWRC
<i>Phalacrocorax varius varius</i>	Pied shag	Colonies of this species occur at six coastal sites observed between Lake Kohangapiripiri and Waikanae Estuary during the 2018 coastal survey. Birds NZ have also completed a survey for this species.	Keep a watching brief	Repeat survey of entire coastline in 2022 – 2024 to ascertain population trend	GWRC
<i>Philesturnus rufusater</i>	North Island saddleback	This species is present on Kapiti Island and in Zealandia. Birds moving out of Zealandia are not surviving. As for stitchbird, WCC is increasing pest control in the area around Zealandia, as well as undertaking research and increasing localised control if a nest is found.	Continue management	Continue monitoring	WCC, DOC, Zealandia
<i>Poliiocephalus rufopectus</i>	New Zealand dabchick	The Wellington region is the national stronghold for this species which are known to be breeding at a number of sites, including Wairarapa Moana, the Kapiti Coast and Parangarahu lakes. These birds flock to the lakes at certain times of the year, but use farm dams, etc as habitat. This species will be benefitting from pest control at Waikanae and Boggy Pond (Wairarapa Moana).	Continue pest control at current management sites	Complete a regional survey	GWRC, DOC

**Table 3.4: Management and survey actions for Regionally Declining species**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
<i>Acanthisitta chloris granti</i>	North Island rifleman	This species is widespread in the region, but largely confined to the larger forested areas and are dependent on regional pest control actions. Translocations have been made to Zealandia from Wainuiomata Mainland Island.	Maintain pest control of the old-growth forests in the region, particularly in mast years	Continue current monitoring. Use occupancy mapping to determine ongoing species status	GWRC, DOC, WCC

**Table 3.5: Management and survey actions for Regionally Recovering species**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes/ Current management	Management Actions	Monitoring Actions	Agencies involved
<i>Anas gracilis</i>	Grey teal	There is thought to be widespread resident breeding of this species in the region	Keep a watching brief	Complete occupancy modelling	GWRC
<i>Cyanoramphus novaeseelandiae novaeseelandiae</i>	Red-crowned parakeet	Red-crowned parakeet are breeding well and responding to pest control, but cats are a major threat to this species. Numbers increased dramatically on Kapiti Island following the removal of pests and this species has dispersed to some mainland sites.	Continue pest control at managed sites	Continue current bird monitoring	GWRC, DOC
<i>Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae</i>	New Zealand pigeon, kereru	There is thought to be widespread resident breeding of this species in the region	Continue pest control at managed sites	Continue current bird monitoring	GWRC, DOC

<p><i>Nestor meridionalis septentrionalis</i></p>	<p>North Island kaka</p>	<p>DOC is managing this species at Pukaha and on Kapiti Island. Breeding birds are also being managed at Zealandia and are thought to be present in the Tararua Forest Park and Hutt Water Collection Area. WCC very involved in management in the Wellington urban area. There are difficulties with lead poisoning from roofs. Metabolic bone disease from public feeding of wrong foods is also causing beak deformities. Wellington Zoo is assisting with the disease issues. This species does appear to be spreading across the region.</p>	<p>Continue current management</p>	<p>Complete occupancy modelling</p>	<p>DOC, Zealandia, WCC, GWRC</p>
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**Table 3.6: Management and survey actions for Regionally Naturally Uncommon species**

<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Notes/ Current management</b>	<b>Management Actions</b>	<b>Monitoring Actions</b>	<b>Agencies involved</b>
<i>Eudynamys taitensis</i>	Long-tailed cuckoo	Dependant on whitehead as the host species. Yet to recolonise Zealandia/Mana Island	Continue management that provides protection for whitehead	Complete occupancy modelling	DOC, Zealandia, GWRC