

VISION

We confirm that the remarkable South Island kōkako exists ...so that it can be conserved appropriately



FOCUS

Search

proving definitively that the

kōkako exists

Research

learning how to find the bird

sooner and more efficiently

Fundraising

marshalling the resources to

succeed





BACKGROUND

Ancient component of New Zealand's native biota Separate species within a family endemic to NZ, therefore globally significant





DATA DEFICIENT

Declared extinct by DOC in 2008

Reviewed and classified as Data Deficient in 2013 following accepted sighting near Reefton in 2007

2016 classification notes:

"It is hoped that listing taxa in Data Deficient will stimulate research to find out the true category."





DATA BUT NO EVIDENCE

100s of reports collated into spreadsheet and maps, many from follow up surveys

Investment in field surveys

Sound recordings ...

but still no definitive evidence









\$5000 Reward for evidence, sponsored by Mohua Investments, launched January 2017

Instagram reach > 2million

Facebook reach > 100,000

Nationwide radio interviews & newspaper coverage

Shared with DOC & tramping, walking and hunting groups











Follow up media releases, radio interviews, news coverage and magazine articles

Reward doubled to \$10,000 by Morgan Foundation

Plasticised information posters produced with grant from Pub Charity for backcountry huts

DOC Rangers and trampers distributing to huts





\$10,000









ENCOUNTER LOG

Website was drawing a handful of reports each year

Public campaign generated 60 in 6 months and now up to 140 new reports

Perhaps 25% of value, often adding to earlier reports

Marlborough Sounds via Tasman, West Coast, Fiordland and Catlins









KOKAKO

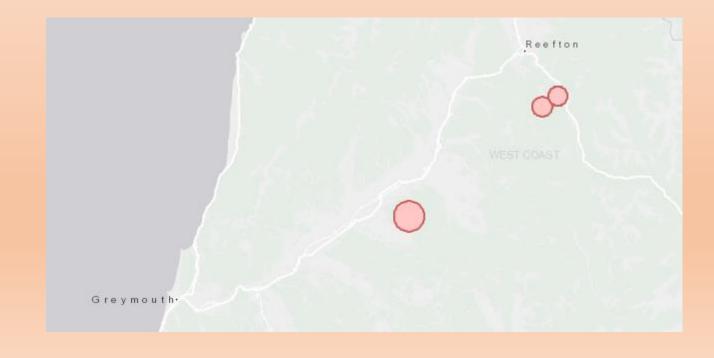
CHARITABLE TRUST



GREY VALLEY HOTSPOT

Granville Ecological Area – sound recordings

Rainy Creek and Merrijigs – encounters



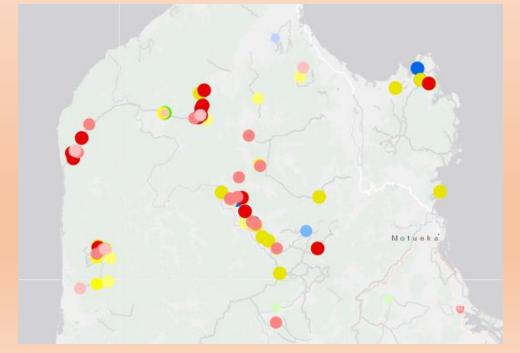




TASMAN HOTSPOT

Heaphy Track – several recent reports from trampers and mountain bikers

Takaka Hill – recent reports from drivers and walkers









Continued interest – TV, national radio, magazines, newspapers, social media

Information kit for searchers including safety advice

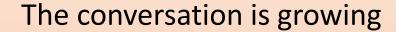
Posters and fliers distributed

Sharing information about credible encounter logs









Not just about the SI kokako

Why is it threatened with extinction?

What other species are in the same boat?

How do we best protect our native forests?







HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Spread the word

Put posters in backcountry huts, skifields, tramping clubs etc – pubs in forest areas

Keep your ears and eyes peeled when out in South and Stewart Island forests

Carry your camera, make notes and log possible encounters

Make a donation







STAYING SAFE

- Be prepared consider weather and hazards and how to manage
- Leave intentions where you'll be, when you're due back and what to do if you miss your return time
- Carry PLB and ideally GPS + first aid kit with antihistamines
- Beware mineshafts/sinkholes/cliffs
- Never take risks, especially crossing rivers







WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Size: Larger than a tui and smaller than a pigeon

Shape: Long legs, relatively long tail, short rounded wings in flight, short stocky beak with downward curve

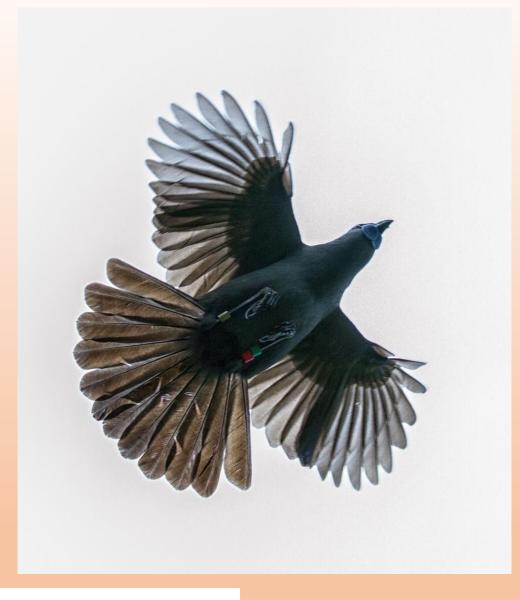
Colour: Dark grey or grey-blue in colour, black facial mask with an orange wattle (range from straw-orange-red in colour)

Movements: Hopping, bounding or running gait, may be seen hopping along or up or down branches or tree trunks

When: The more active times of year are likely to be April to early June and October-December







Photos of NI kōkako on this and next two slides from nzbirdsonline





Ensure broadband available to show youtube videos that show some kokako movements:

<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0-PiDqEJBCo</u> – Meet the locals – NI kōkako – " the squirrels of the forest".

<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JuxNTG3vDa8</u> – Kōkako calling by Geoff Reid.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvHkKm5BS-Y - NI Kōkako at Mt Bruce, in trees, hopping, on the ground

<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lr4yMhllxGc</u> - two NI kōkako together, Tiri Tiri Matangi









WHAT TO LISTEN FOR

Song: The song has a sharp clarity compared with tui or other songbirds, particularly for flute- light notes. Also a 'hollow' depth to some notes, like a wind instrument or blowing across the top of a bottle. Occasionally similar to a NI kōkako with 'mews', haunting organ-like and ringing bell-like notes and song, and a noise that sounds like 'took'. It's likely to stop you in your tracks!









Granville recording, March 2017



Remastered without background sounds

















USING PLAYBACK

Protocol

- Use NI kōkako juvenile calls played through smart phone to waterproof Bluetooth speaker.
- Always have camera handy!
- If possible, wait a day or two before using playback in a search area to become familiar with tui and bellbird dialects
- Play quietly, no louder than natural call volume
- Listen for at least 5 mins after playing 20-30 secs of calls
- Record any response at the time and attempt to identify the bird
- Choose playback sites to offer wide broadcast/listening coverage, 200-500m apart depending on topography
- If recording equipment available, ensure it is running before playback as response can be immediate
- Please **record and report** dates and routes covered, note calls and equipment used and any responses, ideally GPS responses, note habitat and weather, volume and estimated distance of response.











THANK YOU

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