

2 Important Areas for New Zealand Seabirds

Sites on Land

Rivers, estuaries, coastal
lagoons & harbours



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IMPORTANT AREAS FOR NEW ZEALAND SEABIRDS



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This document has been prepared for Forest & Bird by Chris Gaskin, IBA Project Coordinator (NZ).

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Contributors

The following individuals have contributed to the profiles in this document in a variety of ways, including supply of data and information about seabirds, and reviewing draft material, site profiles, species lists and site maps.

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Front cover: Rachel McLellan (Black-billed Gulls), Craig McKenzie (Black-fronted Tern)

Back cover: Frederic Pelsy (Ahuriri River)

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NZ071	Ohau Pukaki Tekapo Rivers	Canterbury
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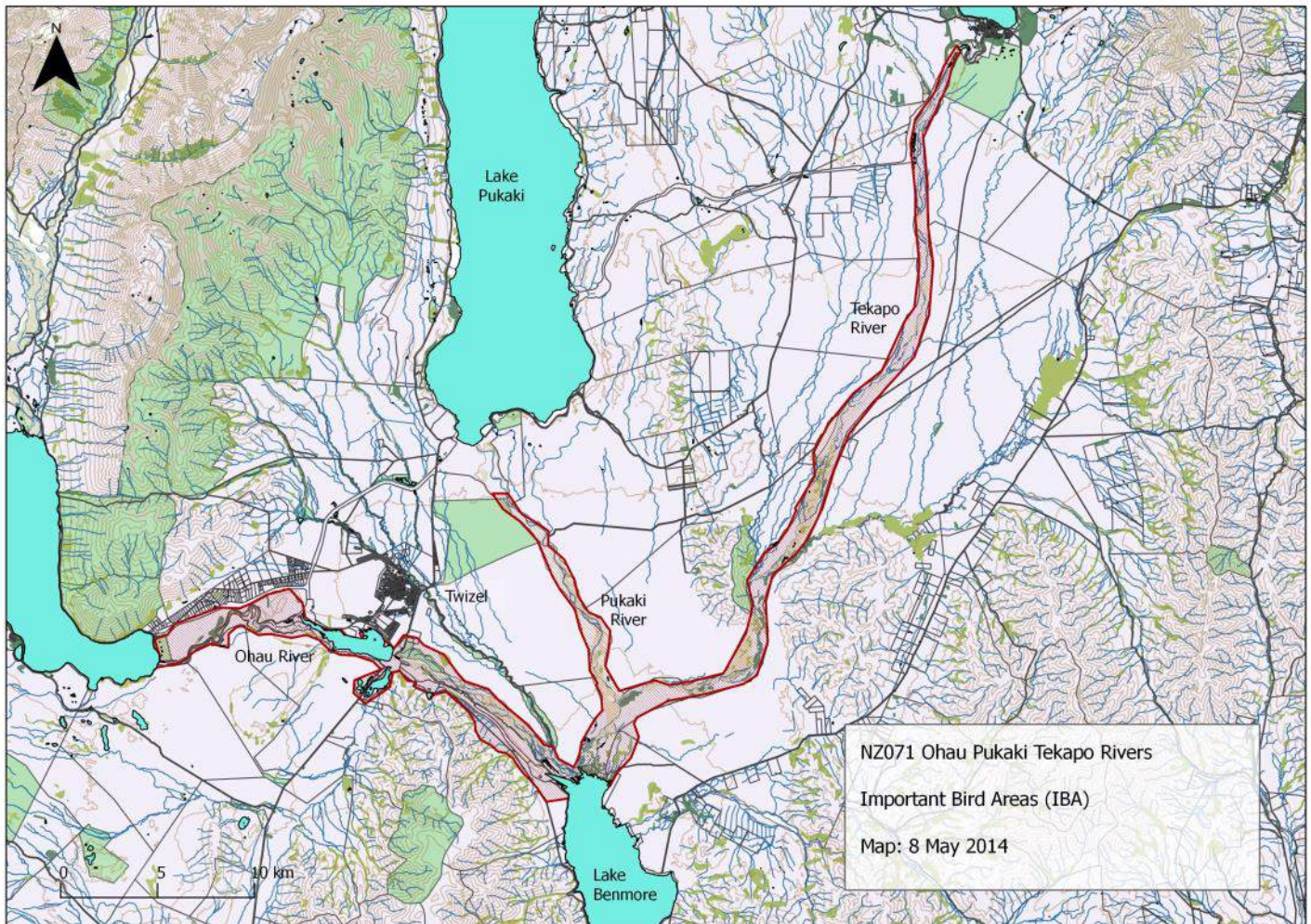
Location	New Zealand, Canterbury
Central coordinates	44.313335°S, 170.231712°E (Pukaki Tekapo confluence)
IBA criteria	A1, A4ii
Area	9,810 ha
Altitude	370 - 670m
Year of Assessment	2013

Populations of IBA trigger species:

Species	Season	Period	Population estimate (pairs)	IBA criteria	IUCN cat.	NZ Threat Class.
Black-billed Gull	Breeding	2009-2012	35-45	A1, A4i	EN	Nationally Critical
Black-fronted Tern	Breeding	2009-2012	218-517	A1, A4i	EN	Nationally Vulnerable
Black Stilt	Resident	1991-1994	C.10	A1, A4i	CR	Nationally Critical
Wrybill	Breeding	1991-1994	C.21	A1	VU	Nationally Vulnerable
Australasian Bittern	Resident		Present	A1	EN	Nationally Endangered

Ornithological information: Besides the trigger species the following species are confirmed or likely to be breeding: Australasian Crested Grebe, Black Shag, Little Shag, White-faced Heron, Black Swan, Canada Goose, Paradise Shelduck, NZ Shoveler, Grey Teal, Mallard, Grey Duck, NZ Scaup, Australasian Harrier, Marsh (Baillon's) Crane, Pukeko, Australian Coot, South Island Pied Oystercatcher, Pied Stilt, Banded Dotterel, Spur-winged Plover, Southern Black-backed Gull, Caspian Tern, Rock Pigeon, Californian Quail, NZ Kingfisher, Welcome Swallow, NZ Pipit, Shining Cuckoo, South Island Fantail, Silvereye, Skylark, Hedge-sparrow, Blackbird, Song Thrush, Yellowhammer, Chaffinch, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, Redpoll, House Sparrow, Starling, Australian Magpie. Other species recorded: Chukor.

Protected area	Designation	Relationship with IBA
Lake Ruataniwha	Conservation Area	Protected area overlaps with site
Ohau River	Marginal Strip	Protected area is contained within site
Ohau Terminal Moraine	Scenic Reserve	Protected area is contained within site



IUCN Habitat	Habitat detail	Extent (% of site)
Wetlands (inland)	Permanent Rivers; Extensive River Gravel Beds (Braided River); , Swamps; Permanent inland Deltas	Major
Introduced Vegetation	Lupins; Pasture grasses & rank weeds, willow margins	Major
Artificial - Aquatic	Water Storage Areas; Canals	Major
Grasslands	Tussock on river flats; also Tundra-like mat plants	Major
Shrubland	Matagouri (<i>Discaria toumatou</i>), bracken	Major

Threats to the site (pressure) - IUCN Classifications

Threat Level	Notes	Timing	Scope	Severity
Invasive & other problematic species, genes & diseases	Invasive alien species - mustelids, cats, rats	Happening now	Some of area/ population (10-49%)	Moderate to rapid deterioration
Human intrusions and disturbance	Recreational activities by lake and river users.	Happening now	Some of area/ population (10-49%)	Slow but significant deterioration

Threats to the site (pressure) - contd.

Threat Level	Notes	Timing	Scope	Severity
Natural system modifications	Water management/use - abstraction of surface & ground water (agricultural use)	Happening now	Some of area/ population (10-49%)	Slow but significant deterioration
Natural system modifications	Dams & water management/use - large dams	Happening now	Some of area/ population (10-49%)	No or imperceptible deterioration
Natural system modifications	Weed encroachment on nesting sites (rivers)	Happening now	Some of area/ population (10-49%)	Slow but significant deterioration
Climate change and severe weather	Floods	Likely in short term (within 4 years)	Some of area/ population (10-49%)	Moderate to rapid deterioration

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Photo: Frederic Pelsy
Front: Rachel McClellan, Craig McKenzie