

# Yellow-Eyed Penguin - *Megadyptes antipodes*



Least Concern

Near Threatened

Vulnerable

Endangered

Critically Endangered

Extinct in Wild

Extinct

## About the Yellow-Eyed Penguin

Like us you may have noticed this little bird inside your packet of cheese, but like us, you probably never really took a closer look (probably too busy hacking into the cheese). Well, this bird is worthy of attention from all lovers (and non-lovers) of cheese.

Found in New Zealand the Yellow-Eyed Penguin is a decent-sized bird growing to between 65 and 68cm and weighing between 5 and 8kg. It earns its name from its yellow eyes and yellow eye band. However, its Maori name 'Hoiho' – translating as 'noise shouter' – gives a pretty good indication of its hearty vocal abilities.

Over the last 50 years, this species has faced a rapid decline in population, and current estimates put its numbers at 1850 breeding pairs, and between 6,000 and 7,000 individuals. It is now the rarest of all the penguins. The reasons for its decline may include habitat loss, predation by introduced species, human interference and disease. Local conservation groups and the New Zealand government are working to recover this lovely little species, to restore its habitats, and to protect it from new and existing threats.



Distribution

## How to Help

Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust  
<http://www.yellow-eyedpenguin.org.nz>

Department of Conservation, NZ  
<http://www.doc.govt.nz/templates/pod-cover.aspx?id=33022>



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