

Defining the marine habitat used by seabirds

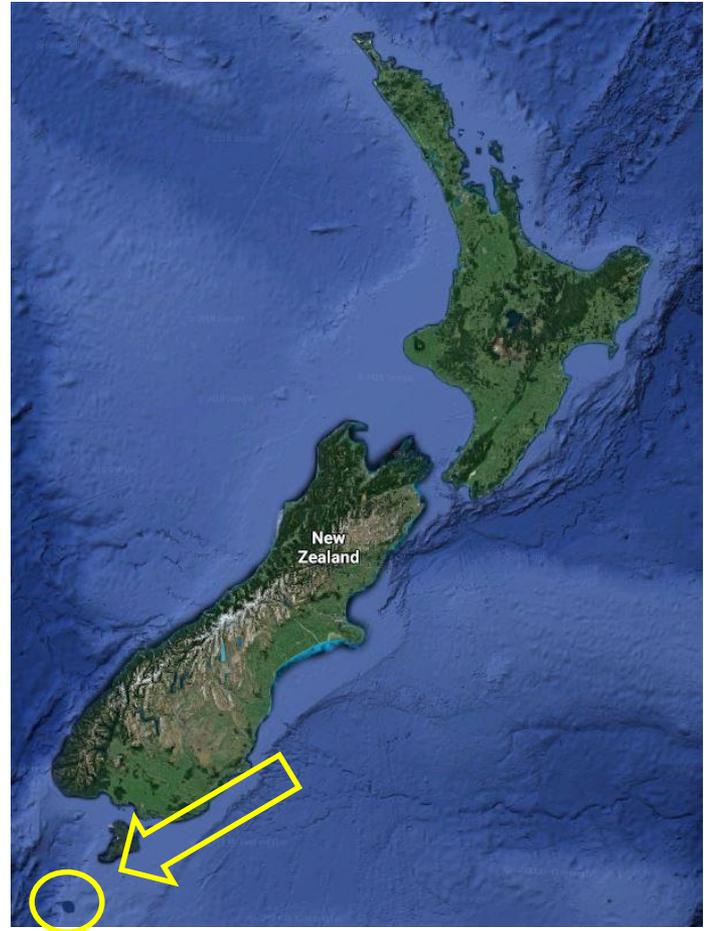
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168 species or sub-species
99 breed here, nearly half endemic





242,495 km²



268,021 km²

Defining the marine habitat used by seabirds

Why?

What will be the potential impact on seabirds of a proposed activity at a particular location?

Often a key question for marine managers, policy and decision makers (EPA and Environment Court hearings)

Need to know distribution and how this changes over time (e.g. seasonally)



- Conventionally vessel-based
- Has been done at the EEZ scale
- Eye-wateringly expensive

Tiered modelling approach

1. Relative Environmental Suitability (RES)
2. Habitat Suitability using:-
 - 2.1 Sightings data
 - 2.2 Electronic tag data

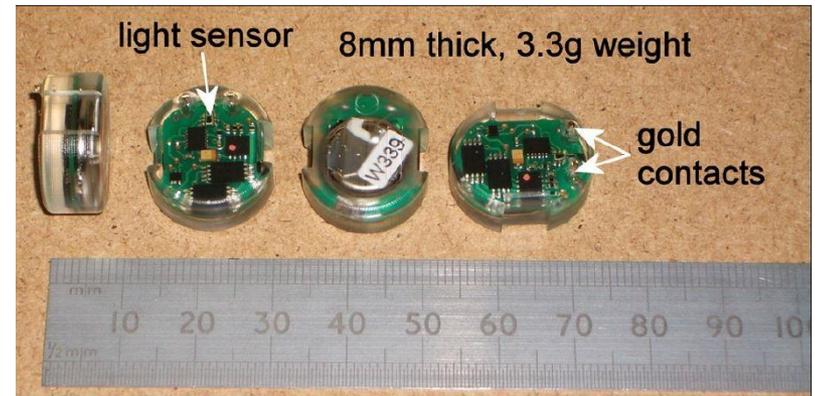


RES – published information about environmental preferences, no location data

Sightings data from eBird

Electronic tag data – GPS, ARGOS satellite array and light-based geolocation – ‘The Truth’

Five study species



Model: Intigeo-C330, 17x19x8mm, 3.3g, 2-3yr battery (e.g. seabird leg)