

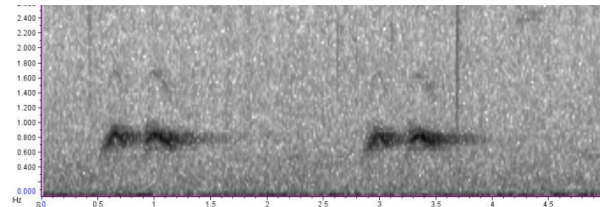
MOREPORK

CALL CHARACTERISTICS

Calling usually begins at dusk (rarely during daylight). The usual call is a clear 2-note “more-pork” or “ru-ru”, with the final syllable sometimes repeated. Other calls include a repeated “more-more-more” and a churring “cree”¹. The latter can be confused with a female kiwi, however it is generally repeated more often.⁴ To hear the examples below, hold ctrl & left click on the speaker icon.

Double-note “more-pork” or “ru-ru” call at around 0.8 kHz. Repetition rate: 1 call every 2 seconds.

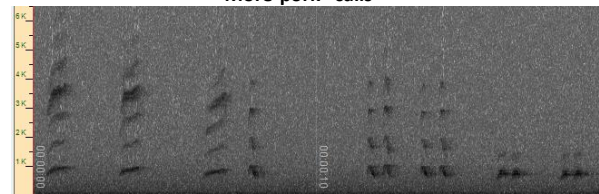
Viewed in Raven 1.0
Duration: 5 seconds



“More-pork” calls

Ascending “cree” calls at around 1 kHz (with multiple harmonics), followed by yelp-like “meow” calls.

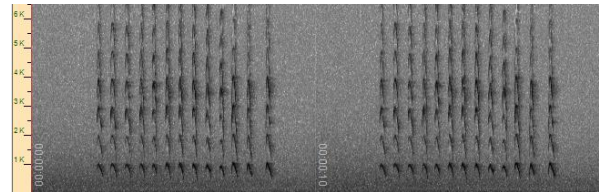
Viewed in Freebird
Duration: 20 seconds



“Cree” & “meow” calls

Single-note “meow” calls with fast repetition rate, at around 1 kHz.

Viewed in Freebird
Duration: 20 seconds



“Meow” calls

Repeated “more-more-more” and “more-pork” calls. Two birds calling simultaneously.

Viewed in Freebird
Duration: 20 seconds



“More-more-more” & “more-pork” calls

Repeated single-note “more-more-more” calls, at around 0.8 kHz. Repetition rate about 2 calls per second.

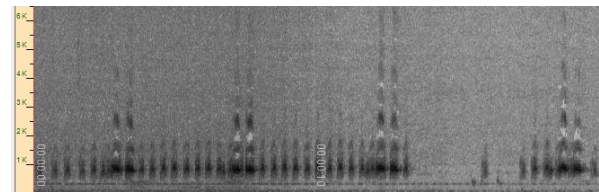
Viewed in Freebird
Duration: 20 seconds



“More-more-more” calls

Repeated “more-more-more” and “more-pork” calls. Two birds calling simultaneously.

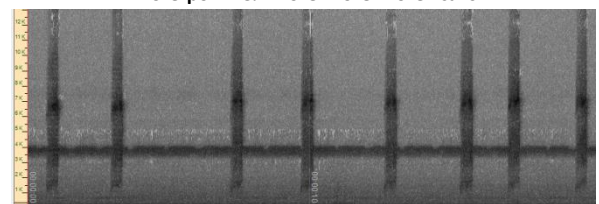
Viewed in Freebird
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“More-pork” & “more-more-more” calls

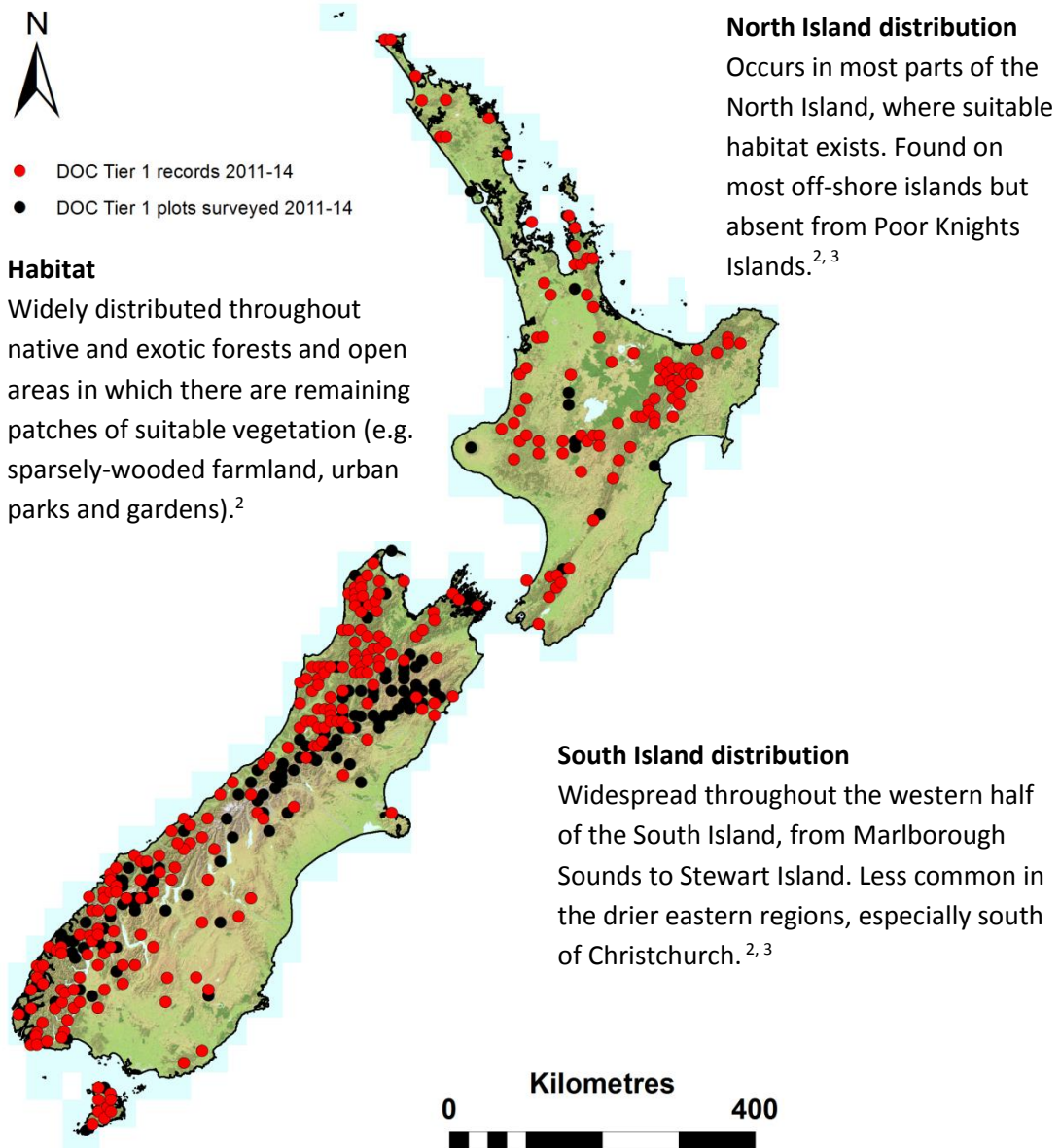
Repeated calls from a juvenile morepork, with insect noise in the background.

Viewed in Freebird
Duration: 20 seconds



Juvenile calls

DISTRIBUTION & HABITAT



REFERENCES

1. Heather, B.D. & Robertson, H.A. (2000) The field guide to the birds of New Zealand. Viking/Penguin Books. 440 p.
2. Ornithological Society of New Zealand (2013) New Zealand Birds Online. www.nzbirdsonline.org.nz
3. Robertson, C.J.R. (2007) Atlas of bird distribution in New Zealand 1999-2004. Ornithological Society of New Zealand. 533 p.
4. Scofield, R.P. & Stephenson, B. (2013) Birds of New Zealand: a photographic guide. Auckland University Press.