



The crew at SLS would like to encourage locals to keep an eye out for wandering Takahē, especially as the busy season of people spending time outside is now upon us.

There are a few birds from the Rees which have done a bit of wandering recently. Most locals probably know that Frost ended up on the golf course a while ago. They may not know that a female Takahē called Mataura from the Rees crossed both the Rees and the Dart to Lake Sylvan (before being caught and returned to Burwood) and that Frost was last tracked about a month ago back on his way to Glenorchy! With about 50 Takahē in the Rees there will always be the odd bird off on an adventure.

#### Key points

- We are keen to hear about all sightings of birds! Even if they are just from a walking track in the valley (especially if you managed to see or get a photo of the band combinations on the legs).
- Potential sightings in other areas are extra important.
- It's nesting season! We are especially interested to hear about Takahē with cute fluffy (or ugly, teenage, dinosaur looking) followers.
- You can let us know about your sightings on this link here: <https://southernlakessanctuary.org.nz/takahe-sightings/>

Or send Greg an email: [greg.whall@southernlakessanctuary.org.nz](mailto:greg.whall@southernlakessanctuary.org.nz)

- Did you actually see a Takahē or did you see a Pūkeko? If you're not sure then let us know anyway.

#### How to tell a Takahē from a Pūkeko

- Takahē are much bigger and rounder (although this isn't helpful if you don't have something to compare it to).
- They are actually quite different colours. Takahē have bright green coloured feathers on their back.
- Takahē have much bigger beaks.
- All Takahē should have leg rings, Pūkeko won't. If it has leg rings it is almost definitely a Takahē!

- Alpha
- Can do 7 metres of poo a day
- Round
- Hide & seek champion 1900 – 1948
- Flightless



# Takahē v Pūkeko



- Beta
- Cannot do 7 metres of poo a day
- More super model than plus size
- Can fly
- Often seen in groups