KINGFISHERS

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CORRECTION

Correction to Hayes 1989 "Feeding behaviour of New Zealand Kingfishers at an estuary in winter", Notornis 36: 107-114. The equation in Figure 3 Y = 0.58 + 0.0677x should read Y = 13.084 + 3.443x.

SHORT NOTE

Bitterns using mangroves

At 4.40 p.m. on 23 September 1990 we were canoeing down the Pataua Estuary on the East Coast of Northland near Whangarei at low tide, when a Bittern (Botaurus poicilopterus) flew out of the mangroves on the side of the river that we were on, across the estuary and landed on the mud among the mangroves on the far side. We canoed on for another 150 m and another Bittern did the same thing. Presumably they were feeding on the crabs, shrimps and other small animals that live in the mangroves. We have spent quite a lot of time canoeing along mangrove creeks in the last five months but have not seen Bitterns in the mangroves before. Presumably they use them only when their normal habitat is adjacent to them and even then only at low tide. Low tide on 23 September was at about 4.30 p.m.

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