



BIRDS
NEW ZEALAND
Te Kāhui Mātai Manu o Aotearoa

Bar-tailed Godwit

Limosa lapponica (Linnaeus, 1758)

Length: 39cm (male); 41cm (female)

Weight: 275-400g (male); 325-600g (female)

Similar species: Hudsonian godwit, Black-tailed godwit

New Zealand status: Native

Conservation status: Declining

A large long-legged wader, brown above, pale below, with a long tapering and slightly upturned pink bill with black tip. Males are markedly smaller with shorter bills than females.

Voice: godwits most commonly call in flight, usually a-wik,a-wik,a-wik. For most of their time in New Zealand they are usually silent on the ground, but immediately before migration departures there is a notable increase in both frequency and volume of calls from individuals that are about to leave.