

were made in different years is, strictly speaking, not possible. However, in these three years in at least one habitat (low hardwood forest, Areas 14–16) the breeding population size and the order of abundance among common species remained much the same. Thus the following discussions are based on the assumption that the general population level in the areas studied did not change significantly over the period of the study.

There are also some errors to be considered in the estimation. The breeding season differs slightly from species to species, especially among the naturalized birds. Judging from the detailed study in Area 16 it is possible that in some areas a count in the early part of the breeding season tends to over-estimate the population sizes of the Blackbird, Song Thrush and Chaffinch, and underestimate that of the Redpoll, while a count made late in the breeding season tends to underestimate the sizes of Song Thrush and Hedge Sparrow populations. The latter applies to the estimations made in Fiordland, Lake Rotoroa and Catlins, where the field studies were made in January and February.

TABLE XV.

Habitats of common land birds in the South Island of New Zealand. x indicates general habitat, (x) winter appearances only.

Species	Habitats					Subalpine Scrub and Alpine Meadow and Rocks	
	Coastal Grassland and Rocks	Urban District	Farmland	Conifer Plantation	Native Forest		
Kiwi (3 spp.)					x		x
Australasian Harrier	x	(x)	x	x	x		x
N.Z. Falcon					x		
Western Weka					x		
N.Z. Pigeon		(x)	x	x	x		
Rock Pigeon*	x	x	x				
S.I. Kaka					x		
Kea					x		x
N.Z. Parakeet					x		
Yellow-crowned Parakeet					x		x
Shining Cuckoo			x		x		
Long-tailed Cuckoo					x		
Morepork			x		x		
S.I. Rifleman				x	x		
Rock Wren							x
Skylark*	x	x	x				x
S.I. Fantail		(x)	x	x	x		
Yellow-breasted Tit			(x)	x	x		
S.I. Robin					x		
Brown Creeper			(x)	x	x		
Yellowhead					x		
Grey Warbler		(x)	x	x	x		
Song Thrush*	x	x	x	x	x		
Blackbird*	x	x	x	x	x		
Hedge Sparrow*	x	x	x	x	x		
N.Z. Pipit	x		x				x
Bellbird		(x)	x	x	x		
Tui		(x)	(x)		x		
Silvereye	x	(x)	x	x	x		
Greenfinch*	x	x	x	x	x		
Goldfinch*	x	x	x	x	x		
Redpoll*	x	x	x	x	x		
Chaffinch*	x	x	x	x	x		
Yellow Hammer*	x	x	x	x			
House Sparrow*	x	x	x	x			
Starling*	x	x	x	x			