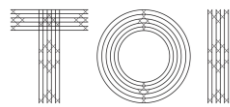


# SANDY PRINTS

Stay below the high tide mark  
between August and March to  
avoid disturbing nesting shorebirds



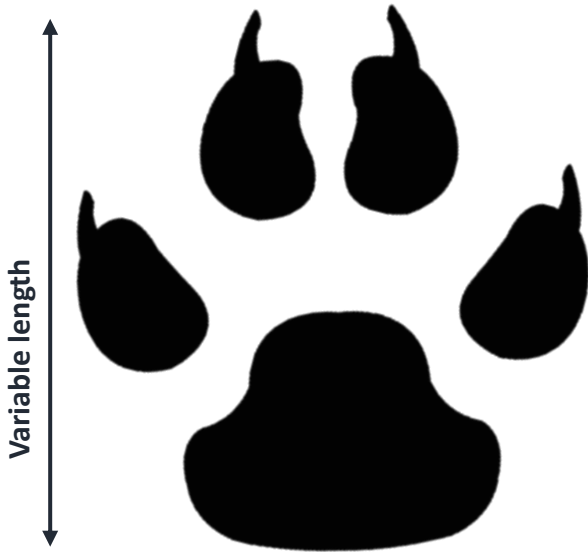
Dotterel Defenders



FOUNDATION  
A THRIVING, INCLUSIVE  
& EQUITABLE TARANAKI

# MAMMAL FOOTPRINTS: AT A GLANCE

Footprints shown at actual size



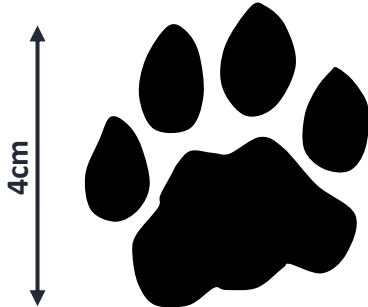
Dog - Kuri



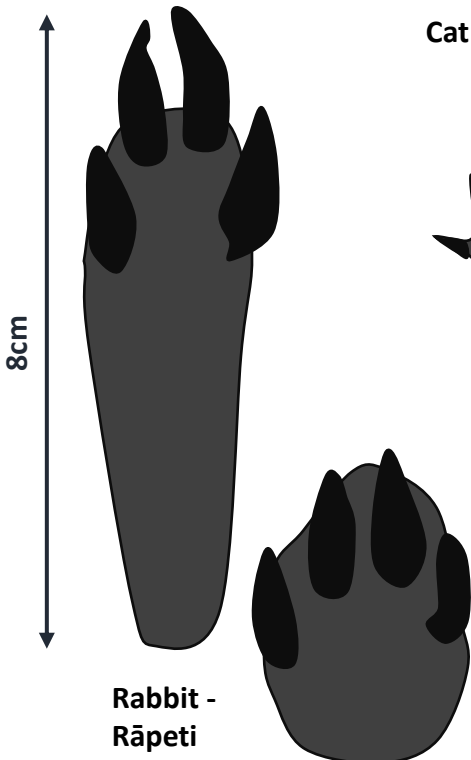
Rat - Kiore



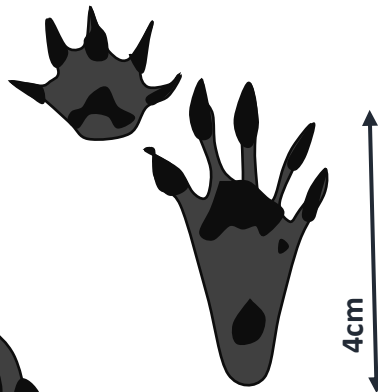
Possum - Paihamu



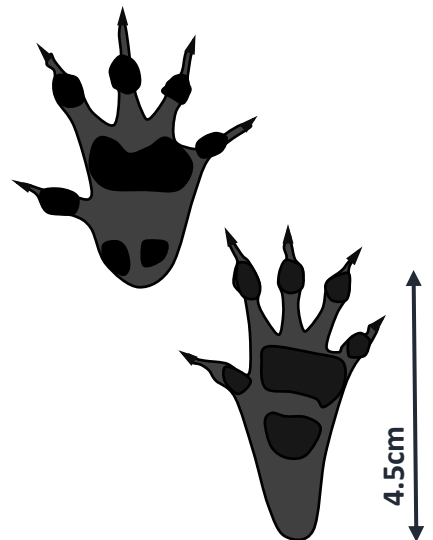
Cat - Ngeru



Rabbit - Rāpeti



Stoat - Toriura



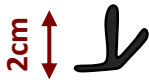
Hedgehog - Tuatete

# BIRD FOOTPRINTS: AT A GLANCE

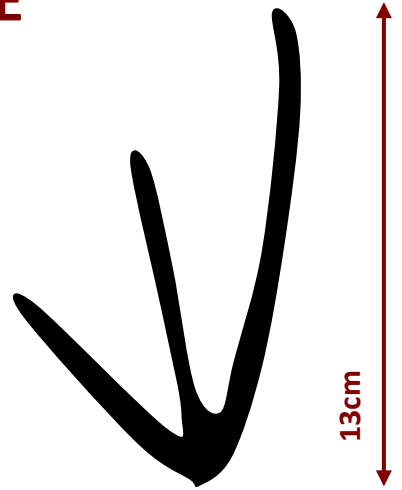
Footprints shown at half actual size



NZ dotterel -  
Tūturiwhatu



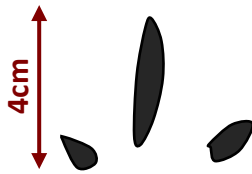
Banded dotterel -  
Pohowera



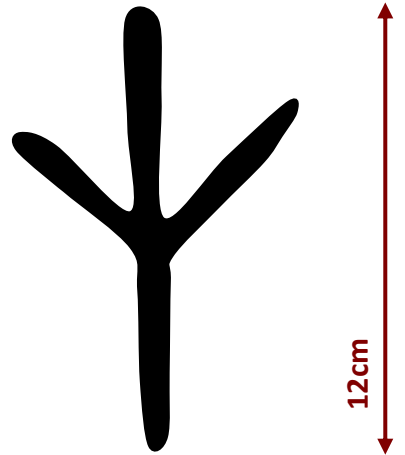
Black shag -  
Māpunga



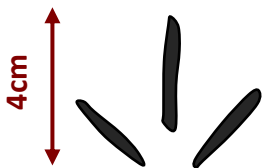
Variable oystercatcher -  
Tōrea pango



Spur-winged plover



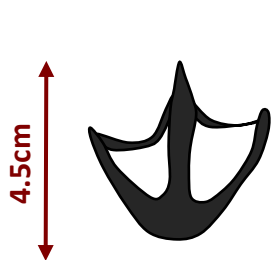
Reef heron -  
Matuku moana



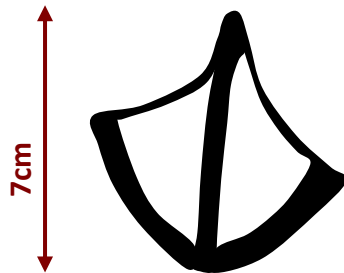
Pied stilt - Pōaka



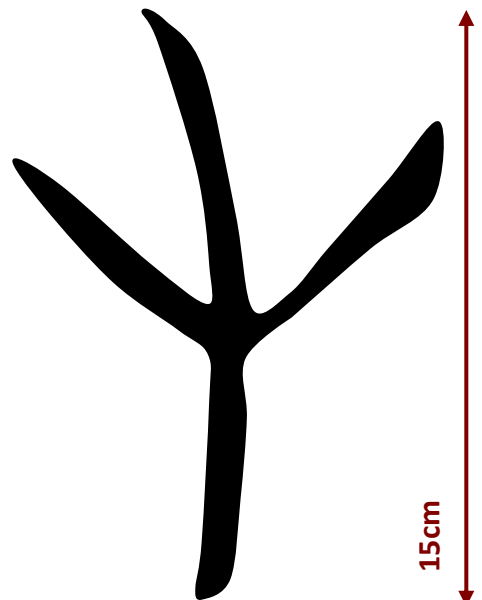
White-fronted tern -  
Tara



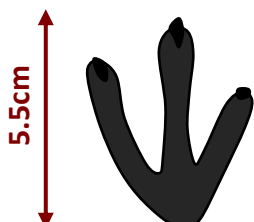
Red-billed gull -  
Tarāpunga



Black-backed gull -  
Karoro



White-faced heron -  
Matuku moana

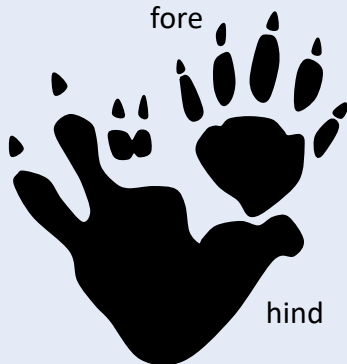


Little blue penguin -  
Kororā

# MAMMAL FOOTPRINTS



**DOG | KURĪ** Large pads and claws visible. Variable in length.

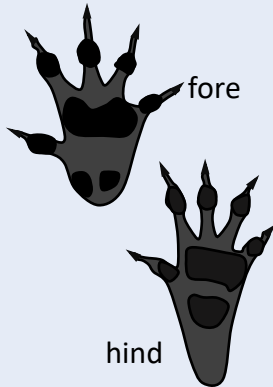


**POSSUM | PAIHAMU** Large pads. Front and back footprints close together.

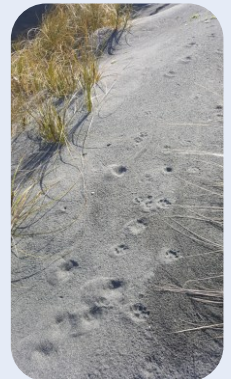
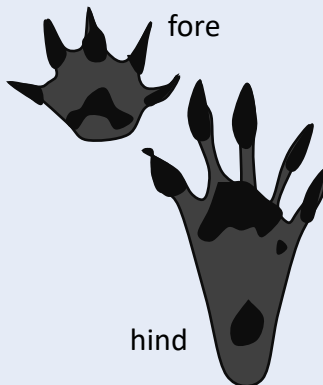


**CAT | NGERU** Large pads. Claws not visible (retracted).

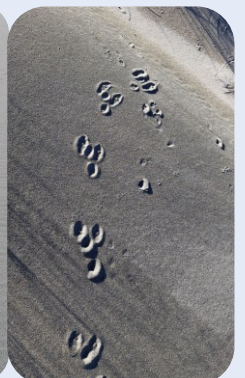
# MAMMAL FOOTPRINTS



**HEDGEHOG | TUATETE** Front feet are broader and shorter than back feet. Claws visible. Fuzzy appearance.



**STOAT | TORIURA** Tricky to identify in sand. Claws visible.



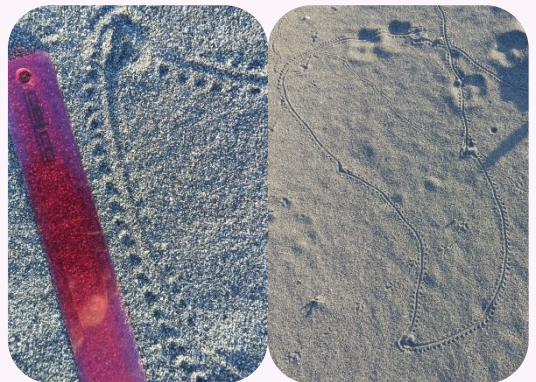
**RABBIT | RĀPETI** Length of back feet not always obvious in sand if running. Jumping results in gaps between 4 prints.

# MAMMAL FOOTPRINTS



**RAT | KIORE** Four toes on front foot and five toes on back foot. Small prints, 1.5cm wide. Mouse prints similar but <1cm.

# INVERTEBRATE PRINTS



**LARGE SAND SCARAB | NGUNGUTAWA** Distinctive trails. Look out for the large grubs or beetles at the end of the tracks.

# BIRD FOOTPRINTS

Stay below the high tide mark  
between August and March to avoid  
disturbing nesting shorebirds



**NZ DOTTEREL | TŪTURIWĦATU** L = 3cm. Asymmetric toes.  
Dotterels walk on their toes so heel often not visible.



**BANDED DOTTEREL | POHOWERA** L = 2cm. Asymmetric toes.  
Similar to NZ dotterel footprints only smaller.



**VARIABLE OYSTERCATCHER | TŌREA PANGO** L = 5cm.  
Oystercatchers walk on their toes so heel not always visible.  
Toes more chunky than spur-winged plover.

# BIRD FOOTPRINTS

Stay below the high tide mark between August and March to avoid disturbing nesting shorebirds



**PIED STILT | PŌAKA** L = 4cm. Slimmer toes than oystercatcher and plover.



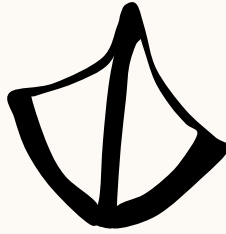
**SPUR-WINGED PLOVER** L = 4cm. Toes slightly slimmer than oystercatcher. Walk on their toes so heel not always visible.



**LITTLE BLUE PENGUIN | KORORĀ** L = 5.5cm. Chunky toes and visible heel. Note narrow angle of toes compared to the oystercatcher. Angle of all toes always less than 75°.

# BIRD FOOTPRINTS

Stay below the high tide mark between August and March to avoid disturbing nesting shorebirds



**BLACK-BACKED GULL | KARORO** L = 7cm. Webbing on feet noticeable in soft sand.



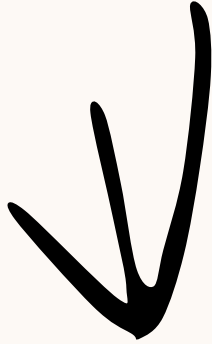
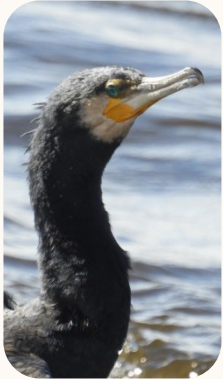
**RED-BILLED GULL | TARĀPUNGA** L = 4.5cm. Webbing visible in soft sand. Smaller prints than black-backed gull.



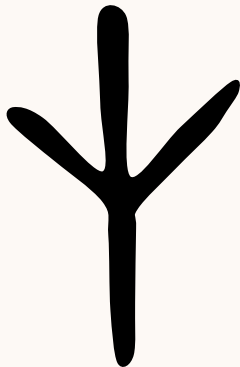
**WHITE FRONTED TERN | TARA** L = 2cm. Webbing visible. Middle toe elongated.

# BIRD FOOTPRINTS

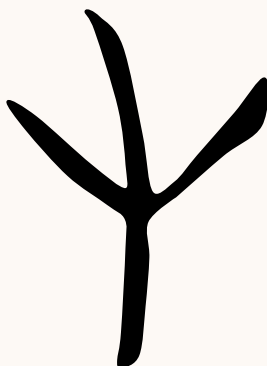
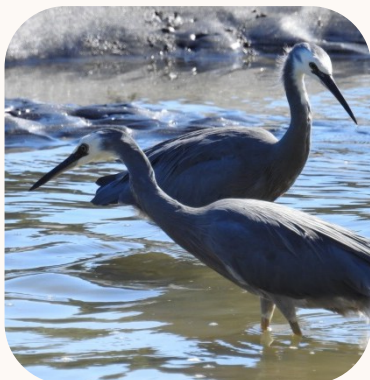
Stay below the high tide mark between August and March to avoid disturbing nesting shorebirds



**BLACK SHAG/MĀPUNGA** L = 13cm. Webbing sometimes visible. Often shuffle feet, with prints close together.



**REEF HERON/MATUKU MOANA** L = 12cm.



**WHITE-FACED HERON/MATUKU MOANA** L = 15cm. Similar to reef heron.

# Other New Zealand footprint guides

NZ Tracker website:

<https://nztracker.org/index.html>

Pest detectives website:

<http://www.pestdetective.org.nz/clues/footprints-and-tracks/>

What made these tracks? A guide to assist in interpreting the tracks of small mammals, lizards and insects. By Warren Agnew:

<https://gotchatraps.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/3.-What-Made-These-Tracks.pdf>

The original Sandy Prints guide was an output of the Dotterel Defenders and Project Hotspot projects funded by Curious Minds

