

Campbell Island Teal



COMMON NAME: **CAMPBELL ISLAND FLIGHTLESS TEAL**

– Fleming, 1935

LATIN NAME: ***Anas aucklandica nesiotis***

LATIN MEANING: L. *anas*, a duck.
Aucklandica; after the Auckland Islands, south of New Zealand
Gr. *nesiotes*; an islander.

CLASS: Aves

ORDER: Apterygiformes

FAMILY: Apterygidae

GENUS: *Anas*

SPECIES/SUB SPECIES: *Aucklandica / Nesiotis*

DESCRIPTION:

Resembles Auckland Island Teal in both sexes, but slightly smaller and browner. Males do not have a white collar or dark line on the back. The size is around 41 cm.

HABITAT / DISTRIBUTION:

Restricted to the sub-Antarctic Campbell Islands, with a few ducks still residing on Codfish Island from a captive release.

BREEDING:

Nests are concealed under vegetation; 3–5 eggs are laid between October and December.

SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR:

The flightless Campbell Island Teal is largely nocturnal and active at twilight, although activity is not uncommon during the day.

DIET:

Omnivorous in nature, it forages amongst decaying seaweed on the foreshore for terrestrial insects, worms and small snails. Small crabs and clams have also been identified as food sources.

PRINCIPAL THREATS:

- Antarctic Skua prey on both adults and ducklings
- The return of rats and cats to Campbell Island from a ship wreck.

CONSERVATION STATUS:

Critically endangered (IUCN Red List Category A 1994).



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