



THE FOREST
BRIDGE TRUST
'protect, enhance, connect'

IDENTIFYING KIWI SIGNS

Compare your findings with the examples given

Kiwi calls are very distinct, loud & are usually heard at night. Each song has approx. 8-25 notes. Males have higher pitched calls, females have lower, more guttural calls.

Probe holes are made by the kiwi's bill as they look for worms and invertebrates in the soft ground.

Footprints have three toes. The fourth hind toe rarely leaves a print. Size depends on the age of the kiwi.

Scat (kiwi poop) is clumpish with white uric acid and has a strong scent.

Feathers are small in size and have a soft texture.



Footprints



Feather



Probe Holes



Scat

Photos: G. Quartel 2021-23



Location

Where did you discover kiwi signs? Were you close to a location where kiwi live?

In the Forest Bridge Trust area of interest there are three known populations of North Island brown kiwi

Glorit, Tamahunga and Tawharanui.

Outside these areas it's less likely to find kiwi, however, the populations are growing and spreading out, so it is still possible.



Kiwi cam Makarau 2023



Photo: K. Ashead 2013

Additional resources:

Kiwi signs

[Savethekiwi.nz](https://www.savethekiwi.nz)

Listen to a kiwi call

[nzbirdsonline.org.nz](https://www.nzbirdsonline.org.nz)

Kiwi footprints

[nztracker.org](https://www.nztracker.org)

For more information contact:

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