

Braided River Care Code



SOUTH CANTERBURY

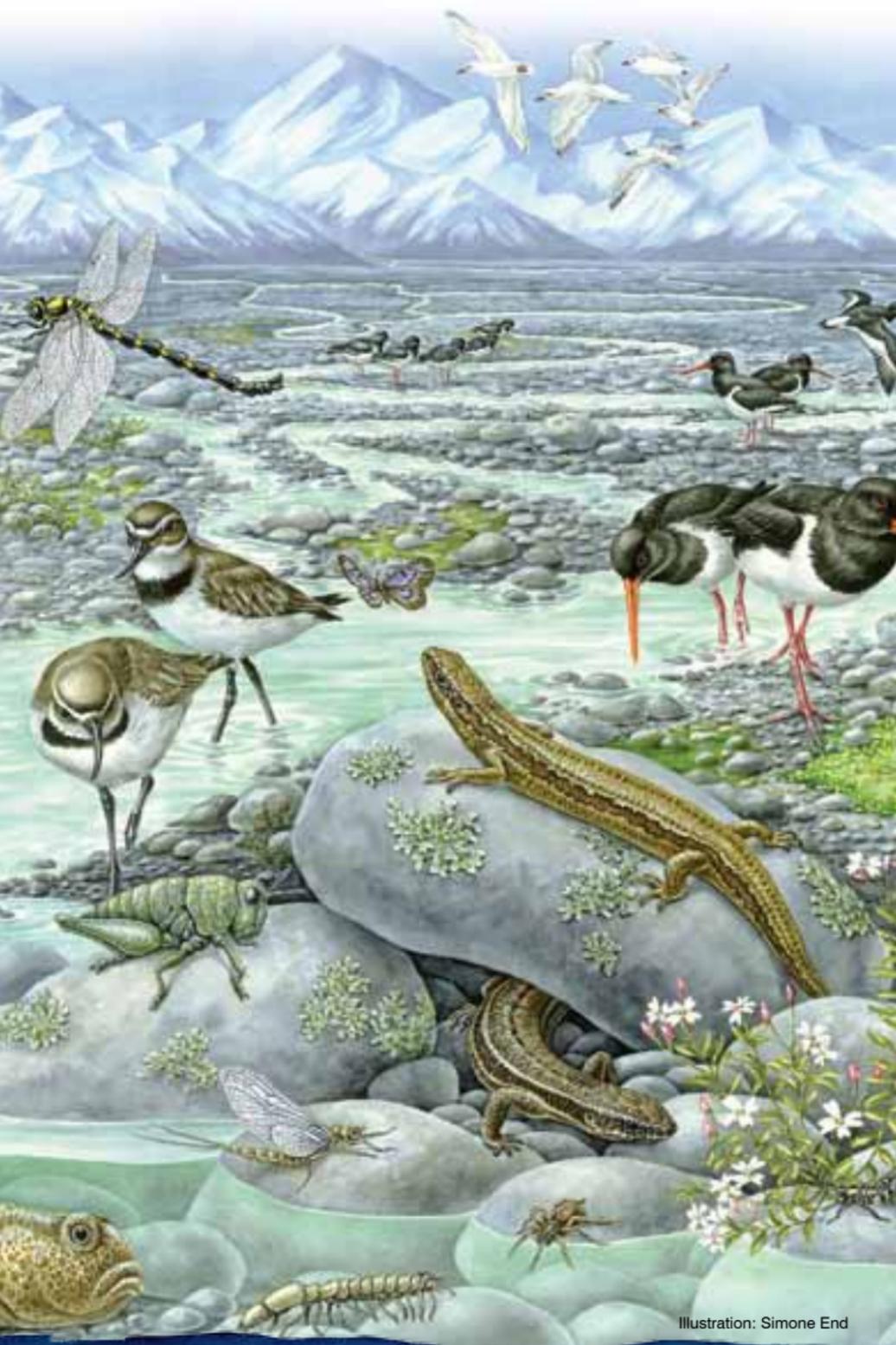


Illustration: Simone End

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Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Be aware of nesting birds . . .

follow the Braided River Care Code

Every spring, native river birds come to braided rivers to breed. From early September to late January, too much disturbance from people, vehicles and pets can result in the deaths of their eggs and chicks.

YOU can help protect threatened river birds by following a few simple tips:

- River birds nest on the ground. Their eggs and chicks are extremely well camouflaged and are almost impossible to spot from a vehicle. To avoid crushing them, please refrain from driving in riverbeds from September to January. Instead, park on a bank and walk to your destination.
- Birds that are swooping, circling or calling loudly probably have nests nearby. Move away so they can return to them, or their eggs and chicks could die.
- A dog running loose can wreak havoc in a nesting colony. Leave your dog at home or keep it under strict control during the breeding season.
- If you use a jetboat, be aware that jetboats disturb birds and can wash away nests near the water's edge. The speed limit for boats is 5 knots within 200 metres of the bank on many rivers (see Environment Canterbury Navigation Bylaws 2010 for exemptions).

Handy hint

How about avoiding the peak of the breeding season by saving your trip to a braided river until after January? Most chicks have usually fledged by this time. Thank you for your consideration.

Further information

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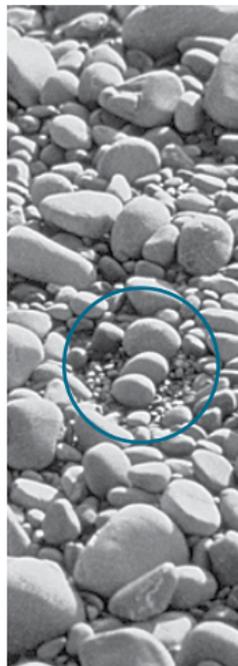


Photo: R Maloney



Wrybill/ngutu pare

Photo: B Harcourt



Black-fronted tern/tarapirohe

Photo: D Veitch



Banded dotterel/turiwhatu

