

UNDER THREAT

WHIO FOES

The greatest threat to whio survival comes from introduced animals; stoats, ferrets and feral cats.



PREDATORS

Who would have thought weka, cats and dogs could be bad guys? Like stoats and ferrets, weka, and feral cats have been known to eat whio eggs, as have falcon, harriers and other birds.



WEATHER

Even isolated from predators, nature itself can have an impact on whio numbers; flooding events can wash away nests and ducklings.



PEOPLE

Habitat loss, through changing land and water use, has affected whio. Urbanisation, deforestation, agriculture and river diversion have all adversely affected waterway routes where whio live.



THE MOULT

Between February and May, whio moult. This loss of plumage is a vulnerable time for whio as they are grounded.

Stoats are the major predators, but even nature can be unfriendly; flooded rivers destroy nests and drown vulnerable ducklings.

