

CHAMBERS, S. 2009.  
Birds of New Zealand - Locality Guide. 3rd edn.  
Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.  
Intermediate egret: pp 90-91.



### INTERMEDIATE EGRET

**Family** Ardeidae

**Species** *Egretta intermedia*

**Common names** Intermediate Egret, Plumed Egret

**Status** Native vagrant

**Size** 640 mm (cf sparrow 145 mm, White-faced Heron 670 mm)

**Abundance** Rare

**Habitat** Found along estuaries and wetlands.

**Worldwide range** Wide-ranging through Africa, Asia and Australia.

**New Zealand range** Records come from such places as the Lake Whangape and Taupiri wetlands in north Waikato, Avon Heathcote Estuary in Christchurch and in 2006 at Waiatarua Wetlands in Remuera, Auckland.

**Description – breeding plumage**

**Upperparts and underparts** White. **Bill** Reddish. **Legs** Black. **Feet** Yellow.

**Description – non breeding plumage**

**Bill** Yellow. **Legs** Yellowish tibia.

**Conspicuous features**

- A medium sized white heron.
- Black line of gape ends level with eye unlike White Heron where it extends beyond the eye.
- In breeding plumage has ornamental filamentous plumes on back and breast.

**Conspicuous characteristic**

- Usually a solitary bird but sometimes associates with White Heron.

**Call** Harsh croaks.

**Nest** A tree nester. It does not breed in New Zealand.

**Where to find**

**Auckland** – Waiatarua Wetland, Remuera. This is a park in the suburban city surrounded by houses. A bird has been a regular visitor here over several years.  
P 298.

**Hawkes Bay** – Ahuriri and Muddy Creek near Clive. P. 331, 332.

Expect it in similar places to that of a White Heron.