

Text and images extracted from Aikman, H. & Miskelly, C. (2004).
Birds of the Chatham Islands. Department of Conservation, Wellington.
Page 75.

Redpoll *Carduelis flammea*

12 cm

INTRODUCED TO NEW ZEALAND

Redpolls are small mottled-brown finches with a crimson patch on the forehead. In the breeding season the male also has a pink flush on the breast. From North America, Europe and Asia, redpolls were introduced to mainland New Zealand in the late 1800s. They established throughout the mainland, and are now by far the most common finch species on Chatham and Pitt Islands, Rangatira, Mangere, Tapu-aenuku, and Star Keys.



Redpoll at nest. Photo: Peter Reese.