



Left: The far eastern curlew's beak is ideal for probing in the mud or sand, winking out most worms and crabs. During its summer in the Siberian tundra the curlew takes advantage of the swarms of insects, beetle grubs and sand fleas. A few small flocks of this species can be seen on Parengarenga Harbour, Kaipara Harbour, the Firth of Thames, Farewell Spit, and Southland lagoons.

Below: At the most no more than 200 sharp-tailed sandpipers come to New Zealand a year from their north-eastern Siberian breeding grounds.

Bottom: The Pacific golden plover breeds in northern and north-eastern Siberia and Alaska and migrates to numerous countries between the tropical Pacific and southern New Zealand. In New Zealand golden plovers occur in a variety of localities from Parengarenga Harbour in the north to Lake Ellesmere. The population of golden plovers in New Zealand is never more than 800.



and back again each year.
Photographer Brian Chudleigh's specialty is wading and migratory birds. His ability to capture the birds in the acts of preening and feeding is unmatched among New Zealand photographers as the following images attest.