



New Zealand
**GARDEN
BIRD
SURVEY**

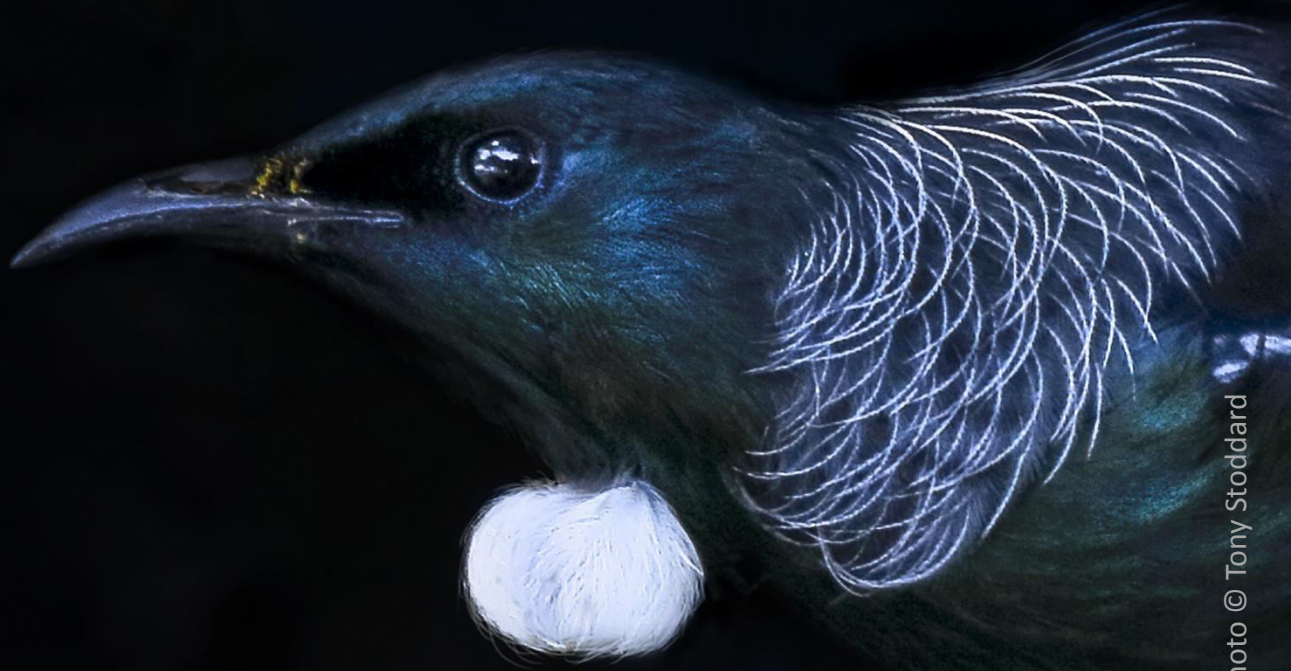


Photo © Tony Stoddard

2016

State of New Zealand
Garden Birds

Te āhua o ngā manu
o te kāri i Aotearoa



LANDCARE
RESEARCH
MANAAKI
WHENUA

National headlines



Since the NZ Garden Bird Survey started in 2007:



Silvereye (tauhou), New Zealand's most common native garden bird, has declined 44%.



Tūi (kōkō) has increased 14%, suggesting that some urban restoration efforts are starting to pay off.



Welcome swallow (warou), a relatively recent coloniser, has increased by 52%.

Several introduced birds that often feed on ground-dwelling invertebrates have declined by 10% or more: Blackbird, Dunnock, Chaffinch, Song thrush and Starling.





How have bird counts changed?

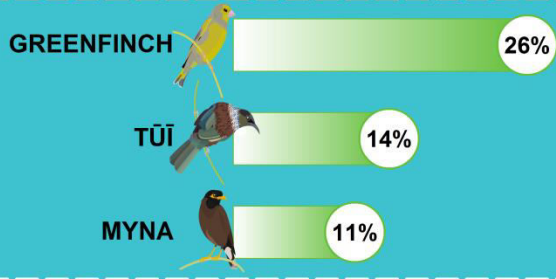
National picture: 2007-2016



MODERATE INCREASE



SHALLOW INCREASE



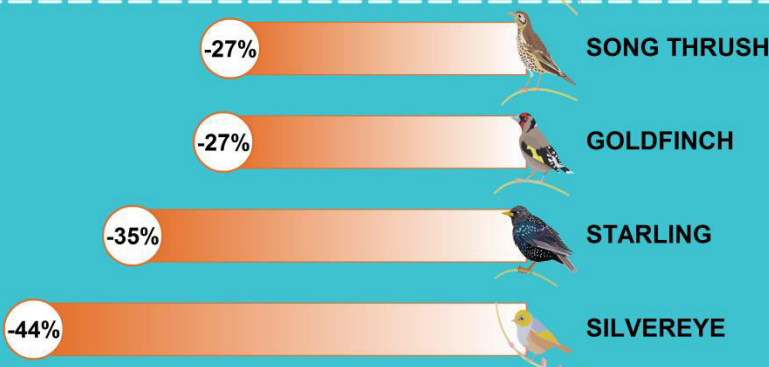
NO OR LITTLE CHANGE



SHALLOW DECLINE



MODERATE DECLINE



Data source: 28,960 gardens surveyed between 2007 and 2016.

THANK YOU

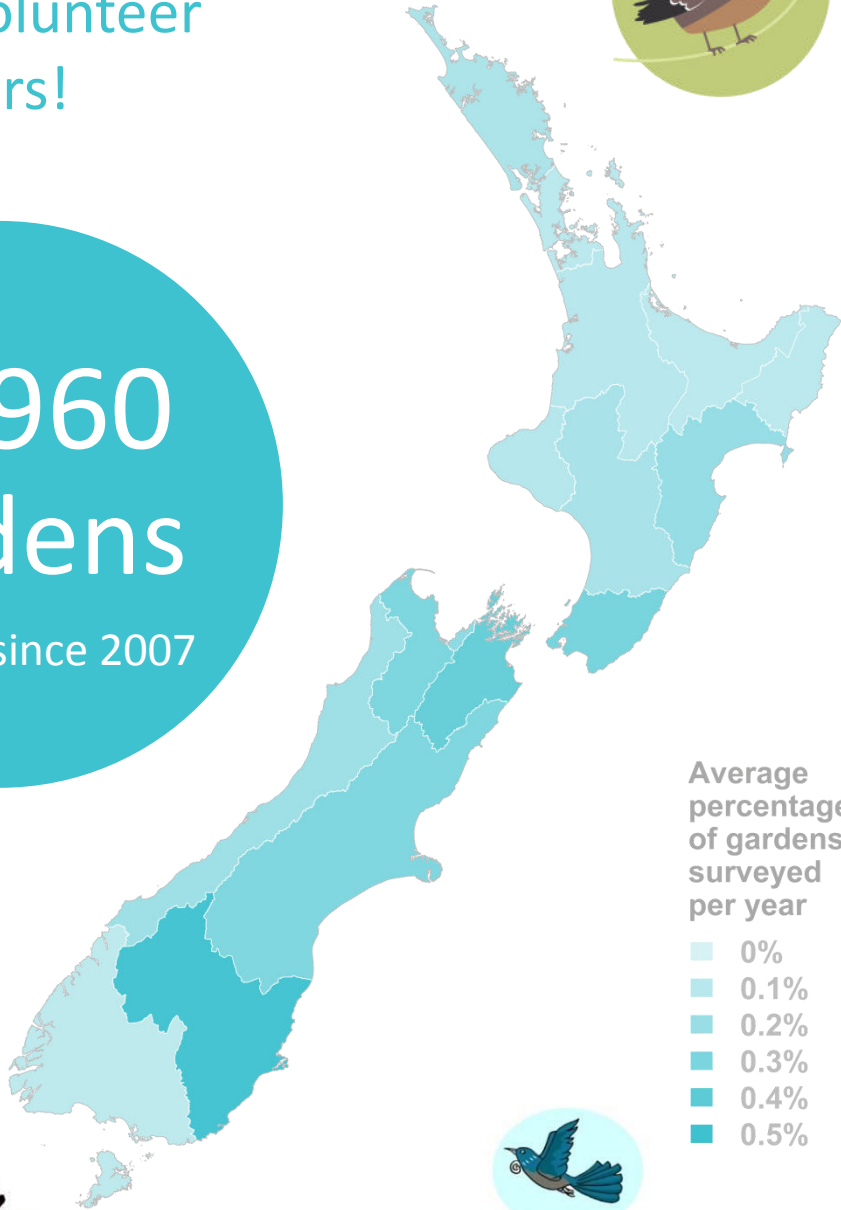
to all our volunteer
bird counters!



New Zealand
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28,960
gardens

surveyed since 2007



Average
percentage
of gardens
surveyed
per year

- 0%
- 0.1%
- 0.2%
- 0.3%
- 0.4%
- 0.5%



Native birds



Introduced birds



How have
bird counts
changed?

Drawing attention to
changes in counts that
may be of concern or interest

Counts decline

50% or
more

RAPID
DECLINE

25% or
more

MODERATE
DECLINE

10% or
more

SHALLOW
DECLINE

LITTLE
OR NO
CHANGE

Counts increase

Over
10%

SHALLOW
INCREASE

Over
50%

MODERATE
INCREASE

Over
100%

RAPID
INCREASE

Bellbird

Korimako



LITTLE OR NO CHANGE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between -1% and -8%

No or little change regionally, except Auckland and Northland where counts are potentially undergoing shallow declines.

How have garden bird counts changed?

Regional picture: 2007-2016

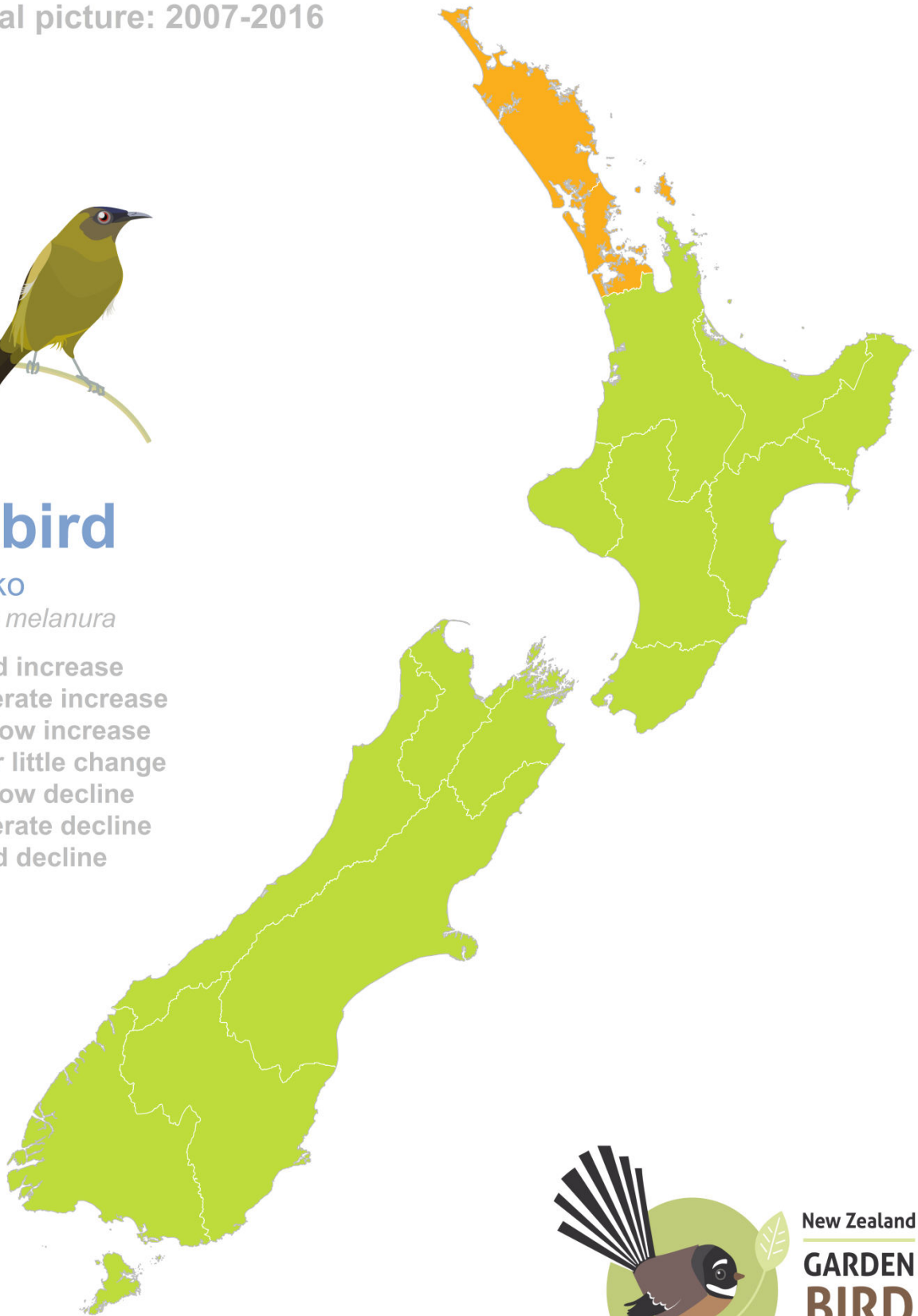


Bellbird

Korimako

Anthornis melanura

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



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Blackbird



SHALLOW DECLINE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between -13% and -9%

Shallow decline in seven regions across the country, but otherwise little change.

How have garden bird counts changed?

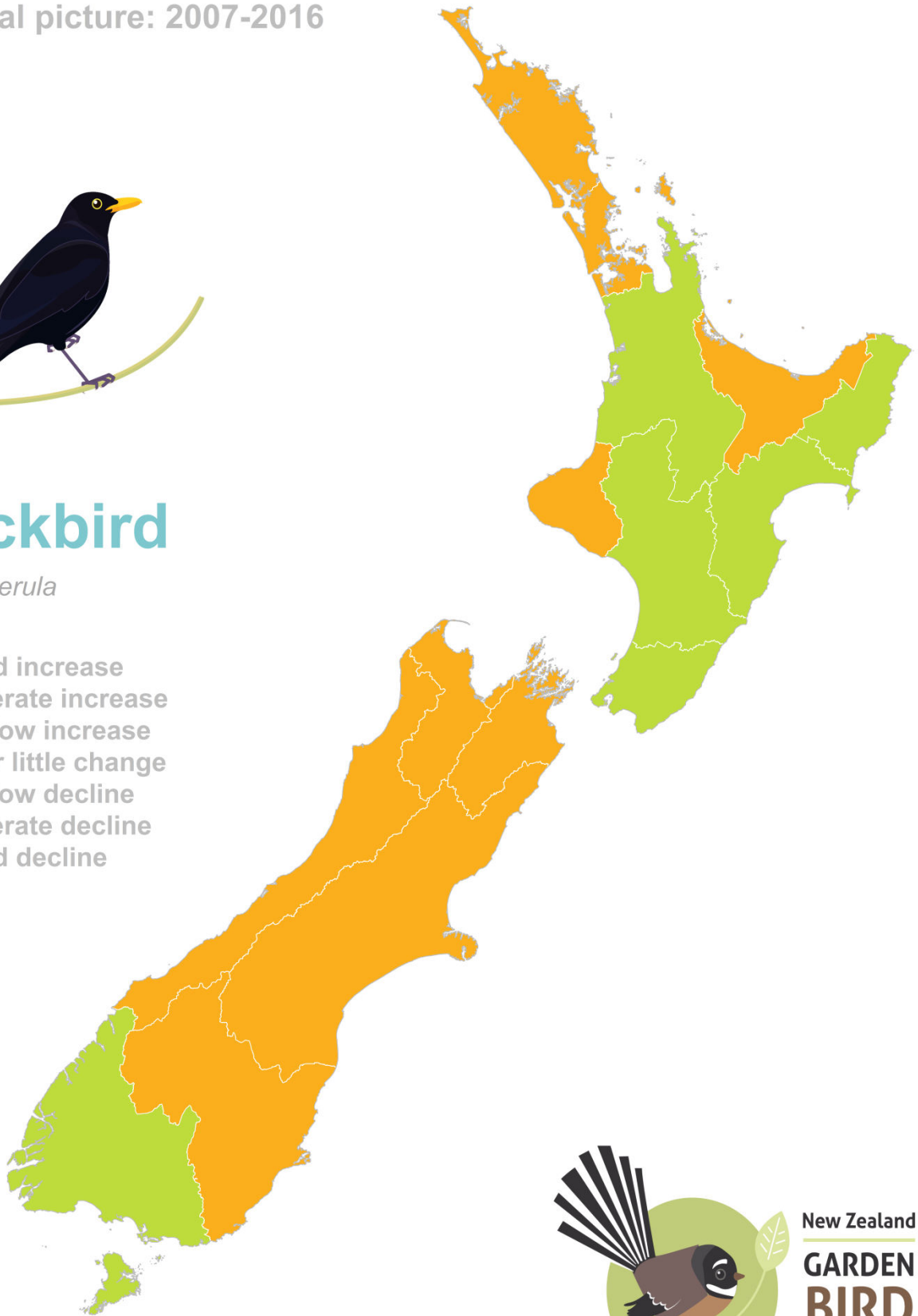
Regional picture: 2007-2016



Blackbird

Turdus merula

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



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Chaffinch



SHALLOW DECLINE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between -22% and -15%

Shallow decline in most regions across the country.

How have garden bird counts changed?

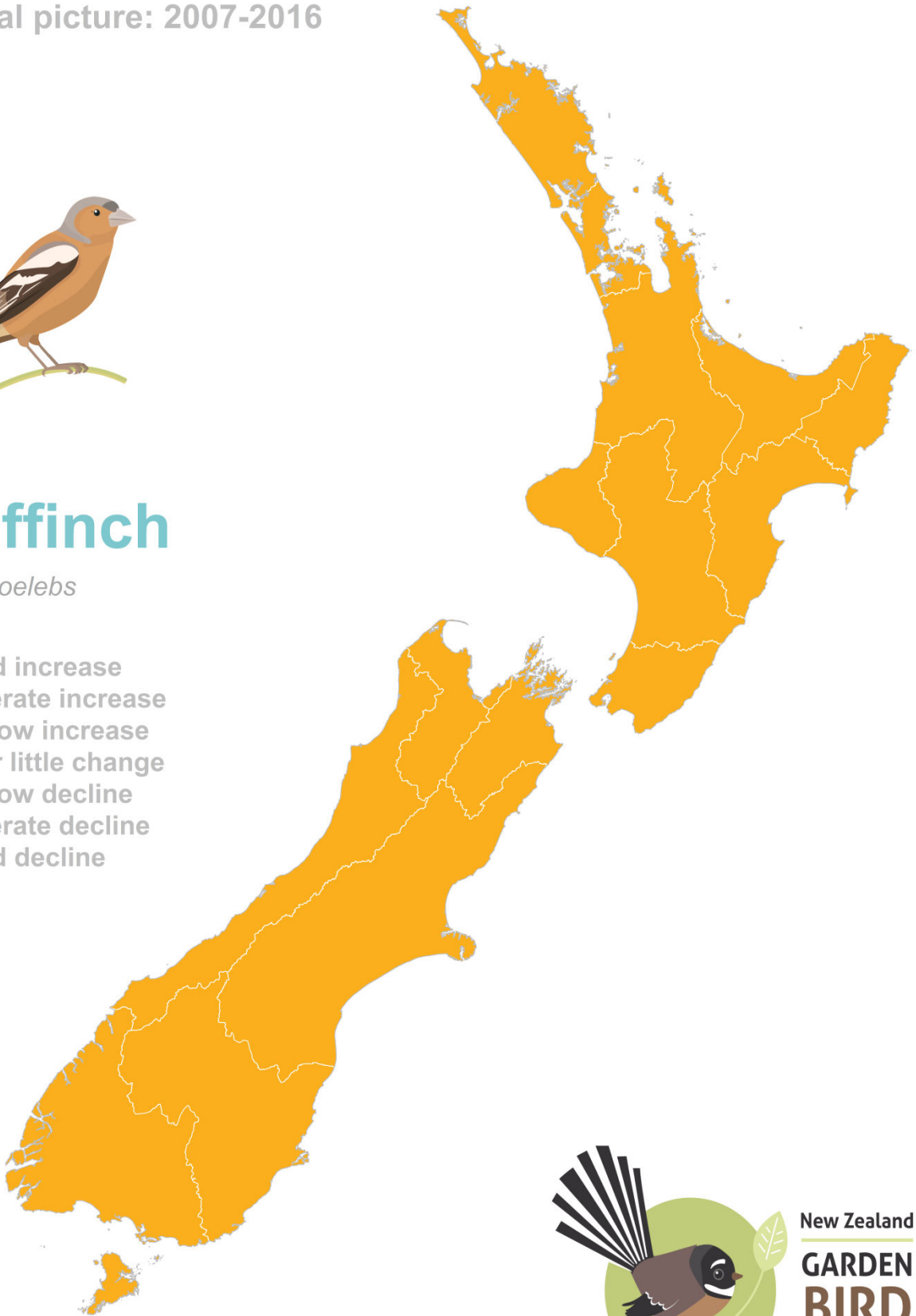
Regional picture: 2007-2016



Chaffinch

Fringilla coelebs

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline

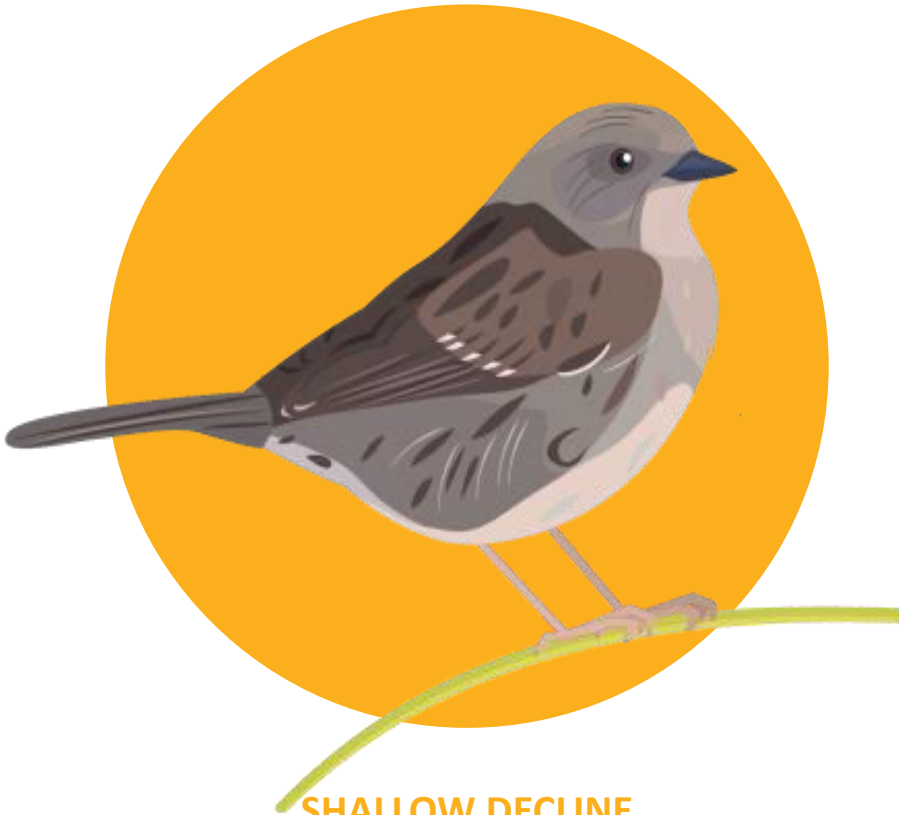


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Dunnock



SHALLOW DECLINE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between -18% and -7%

Counts generally increasing in the south but declining in the north, particularly in Auckland and Northland.

How have garden bird counts changed?

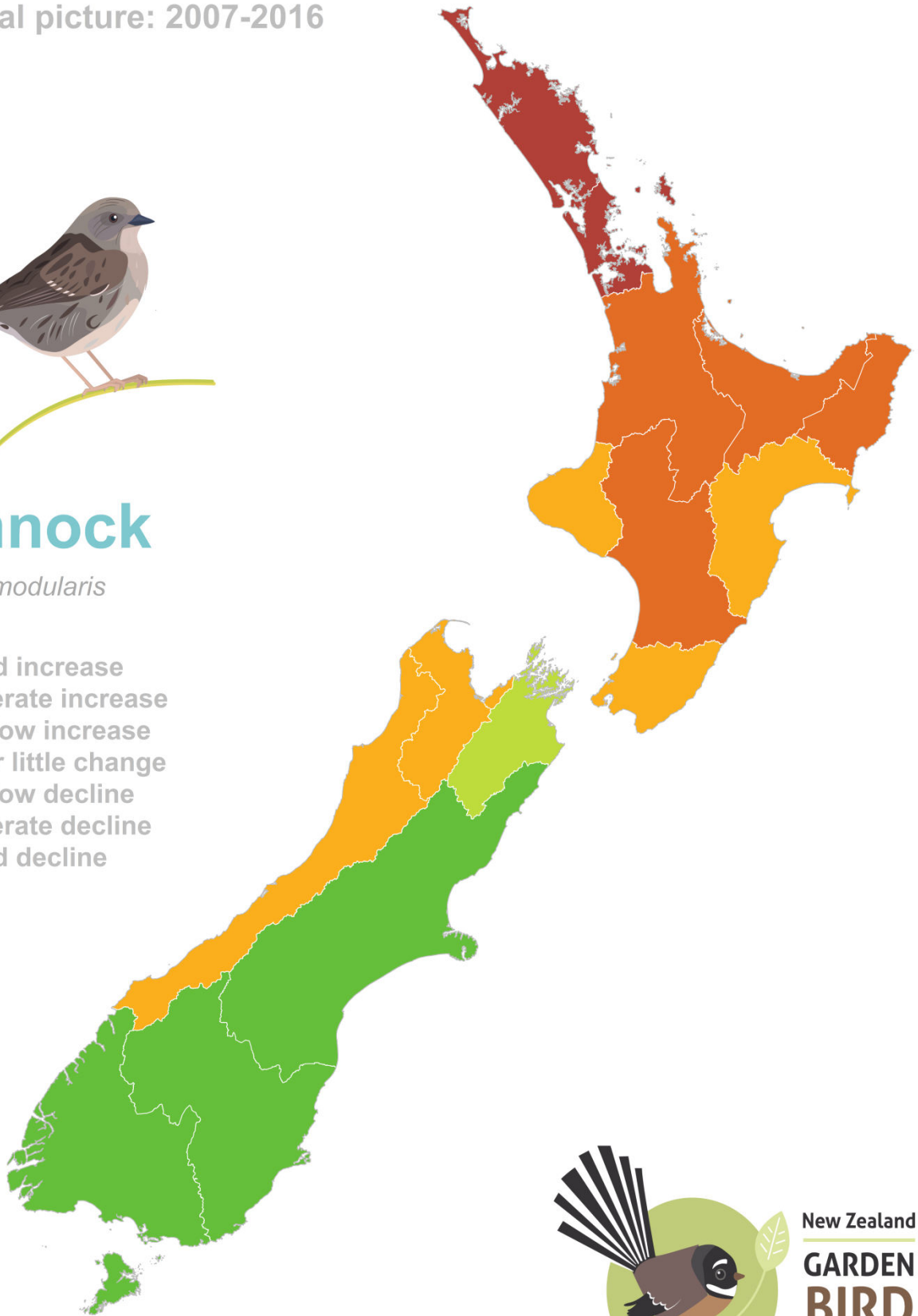
Regional picture: 2007-2016



Dunnock

Prunella modularis

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



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Fantail

Pīwaiwaka



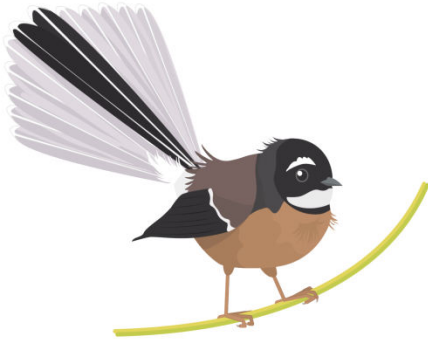
LITTLE OR NO CHANGE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between -1% and 5%

Little change in counts nationally (c. 2% increase) and regionally, except in Canterbury (and possibly Otago) where shallow declines were detected.

How have garden bird counts changed?

Regional picture: 2007-2016

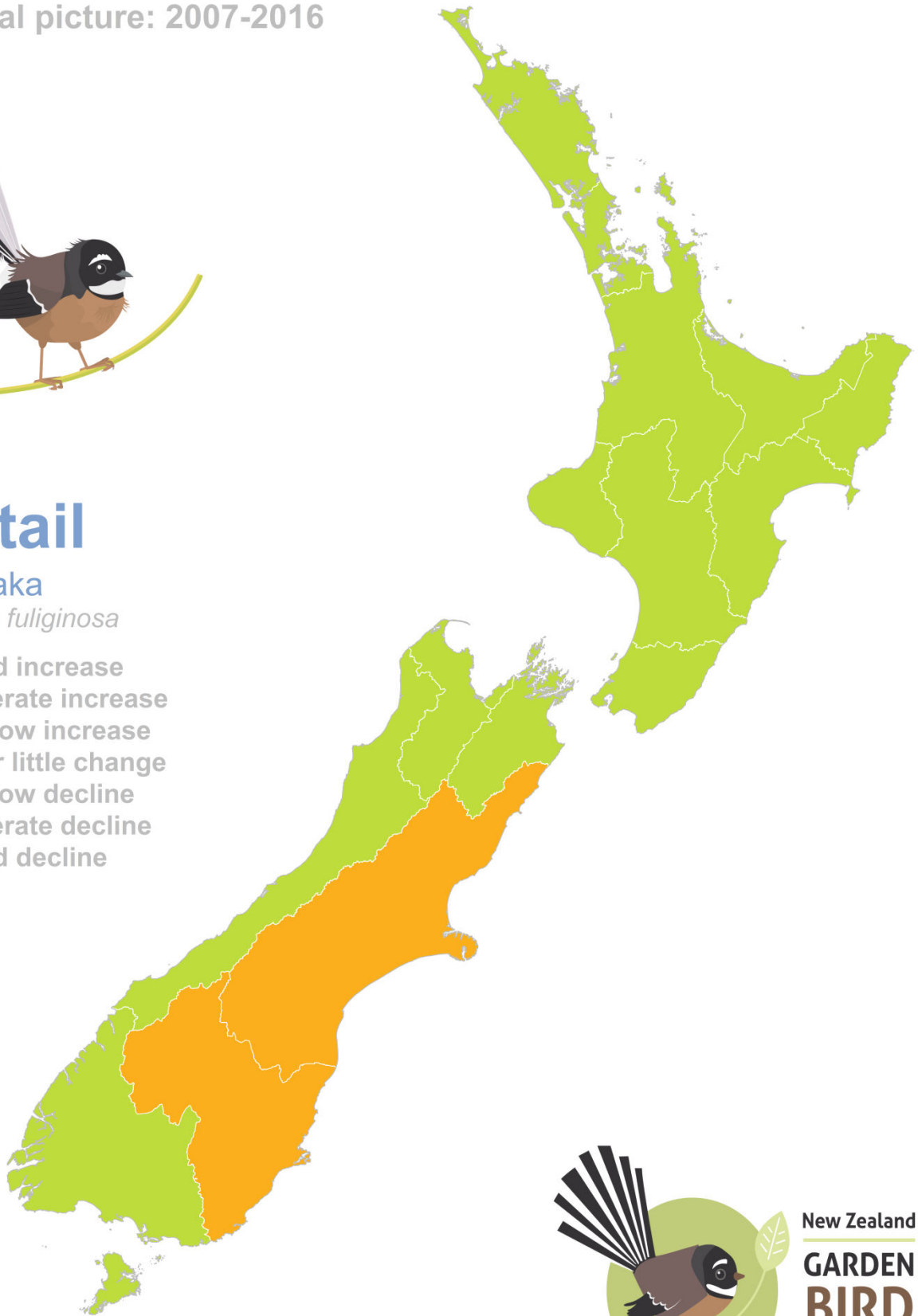


Fantail

Pīwaiwaka

Rhipidura fuliginosa

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



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Goldfinch



MODERATE DECLINE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between -31% and -23%

Declines were moderate in all regions except in Northland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Manawatu-Wanganui and Hawke's Bay where the declines were shallow.

How have garden bird counts changed?

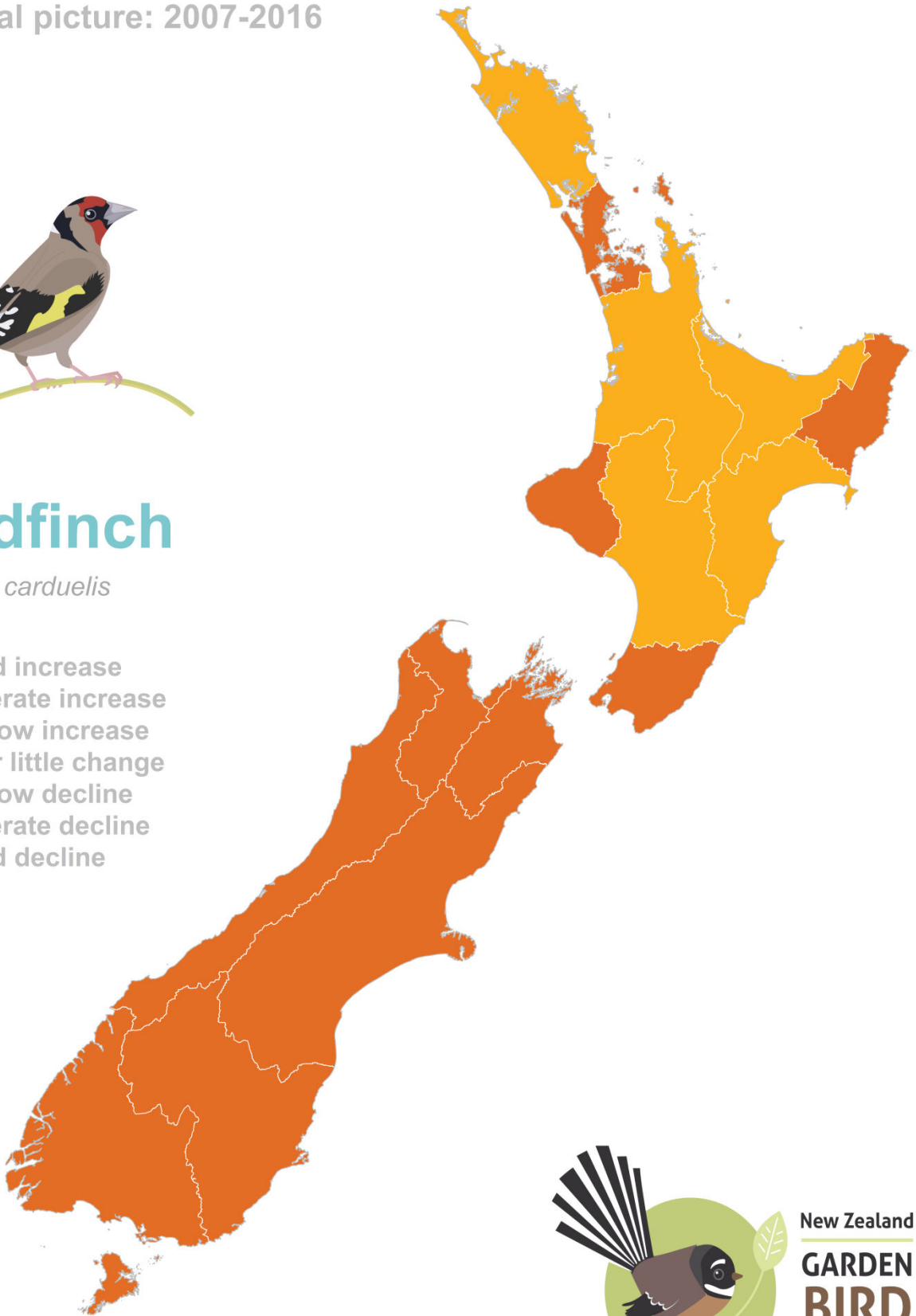
Regional picture: 2007-2016



Goldfinch

Carduelis carduelis

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline

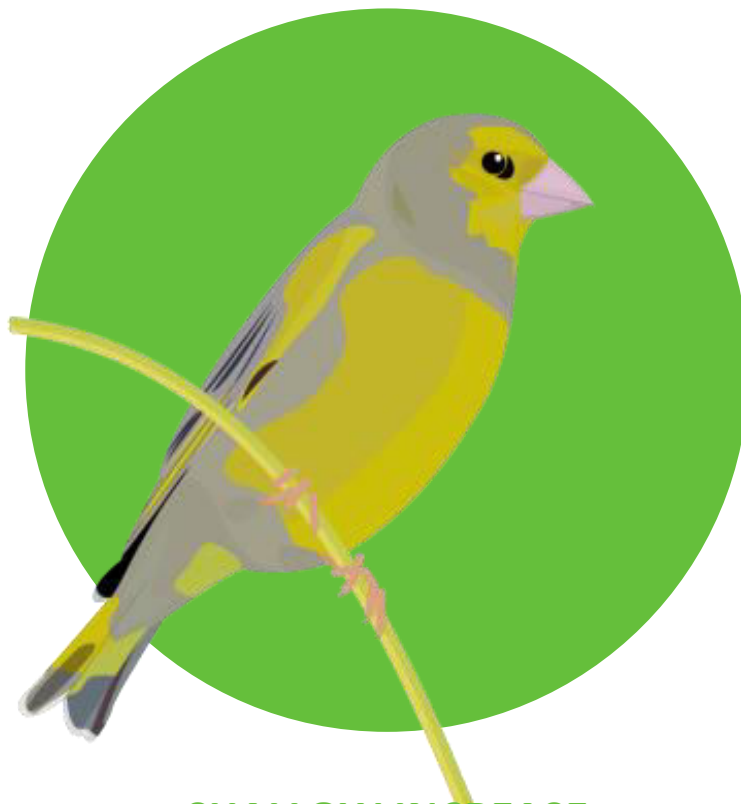


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Greenfinch



SHALLOW INCREASE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between 19% to 35%

Shallow increase in most regions except in Hawke's Bay where there was a possible moderate increase in counts.



How have garden bird counts changed?

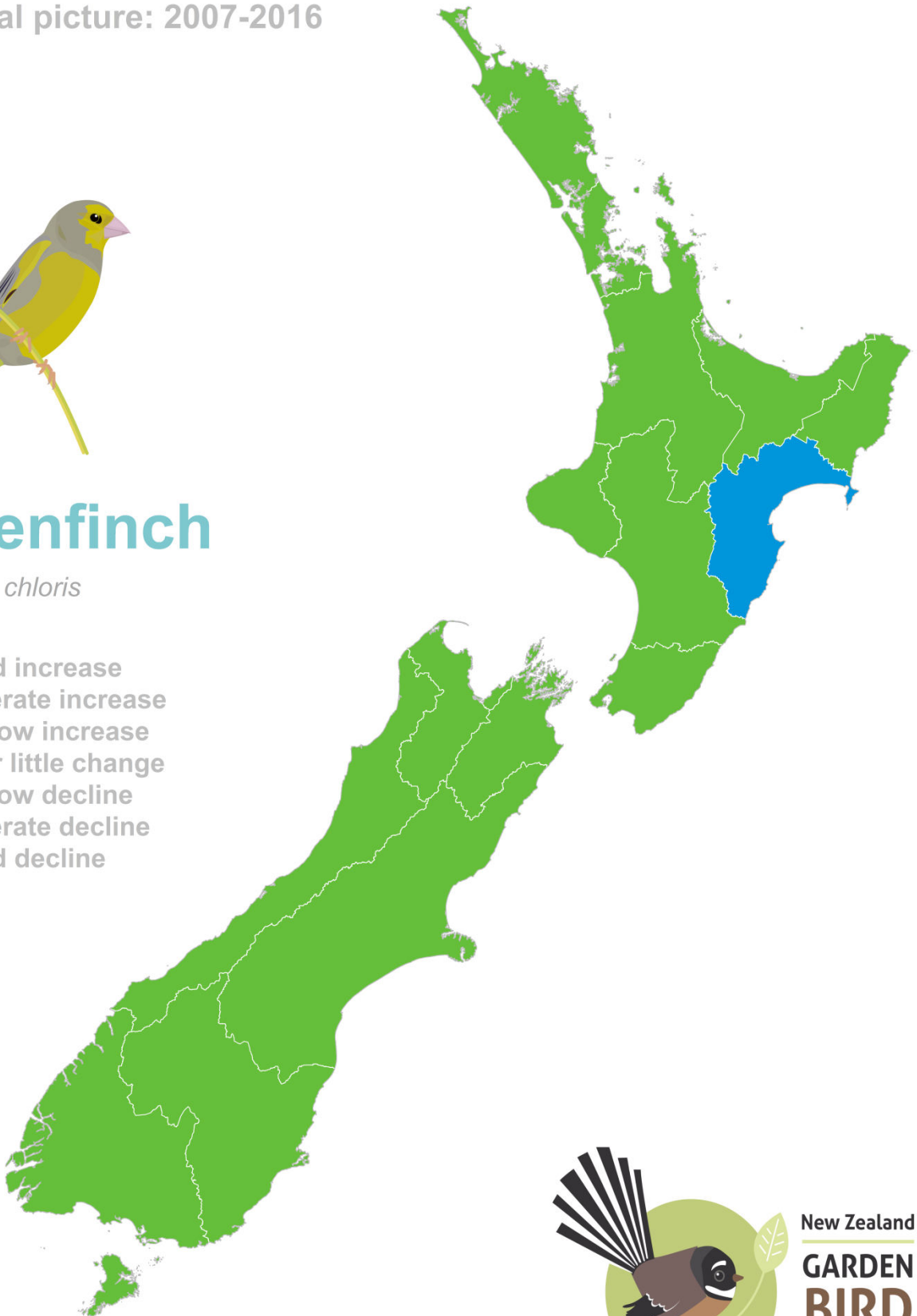
Regional picture: 2007-2016



Greenfinch

Carduelis chloris

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



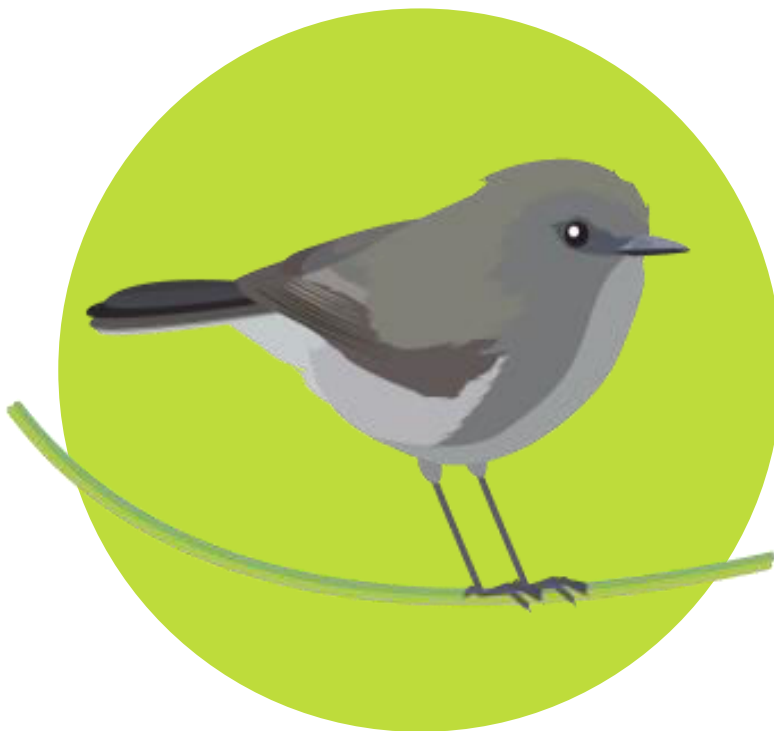
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Grey warbler

Riroriro



LITTLE OR NO CHANGE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between -12% and -5%.

Shallow declines in all regions except in Auckland, Waikato, Hawke's Bay and Otago where there is little or no change. However, the evidence available for this species was generally weak.



New Zealand

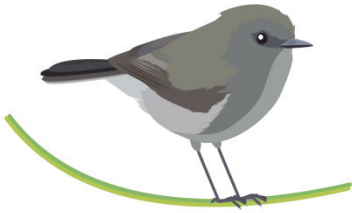
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How have garden bird counts changed?

Regional picture: 2007-2016

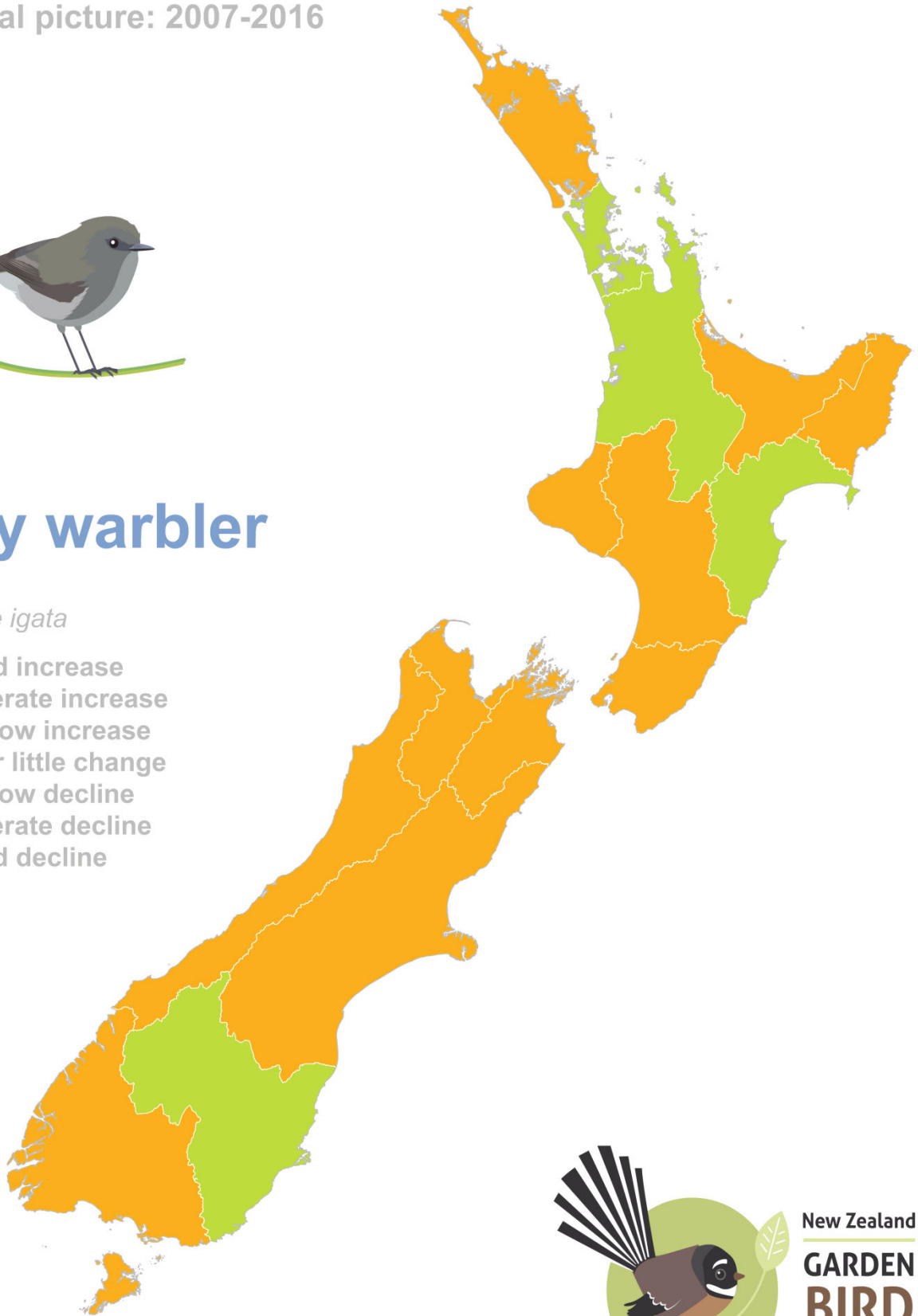


Grey warbler

Riroriro

Gerygone igata

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



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House sparrow



LITTLE OR NO CHANGE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between -0.5% and 7%

Little change across the regions, except in South – with shallow increases in counts in Canterbury, Otago and Southland but a possible shallow decline in Marlborough.

How have garden bird counts changed?

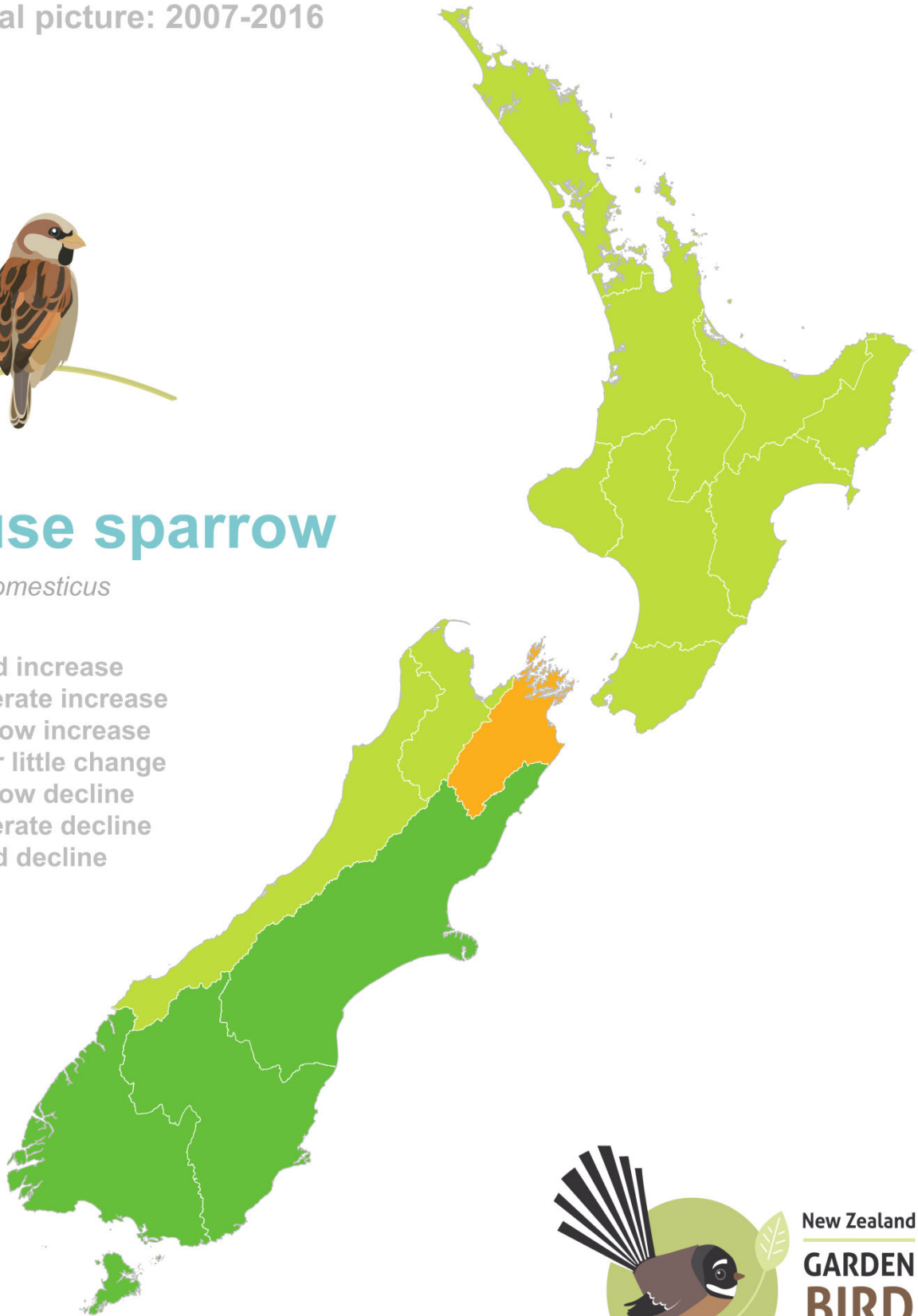
Regional picture: 2007-2016



House sparrow

Passer domesticus

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



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Myna



SHALLOW INCREASE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between 6% and 15%

Shallow increase in the Bay of Plenty, Waikato and Gisborne but shallow decline in Wellington. Note this species is only found on the North Island.

How have garden bird counts changed?

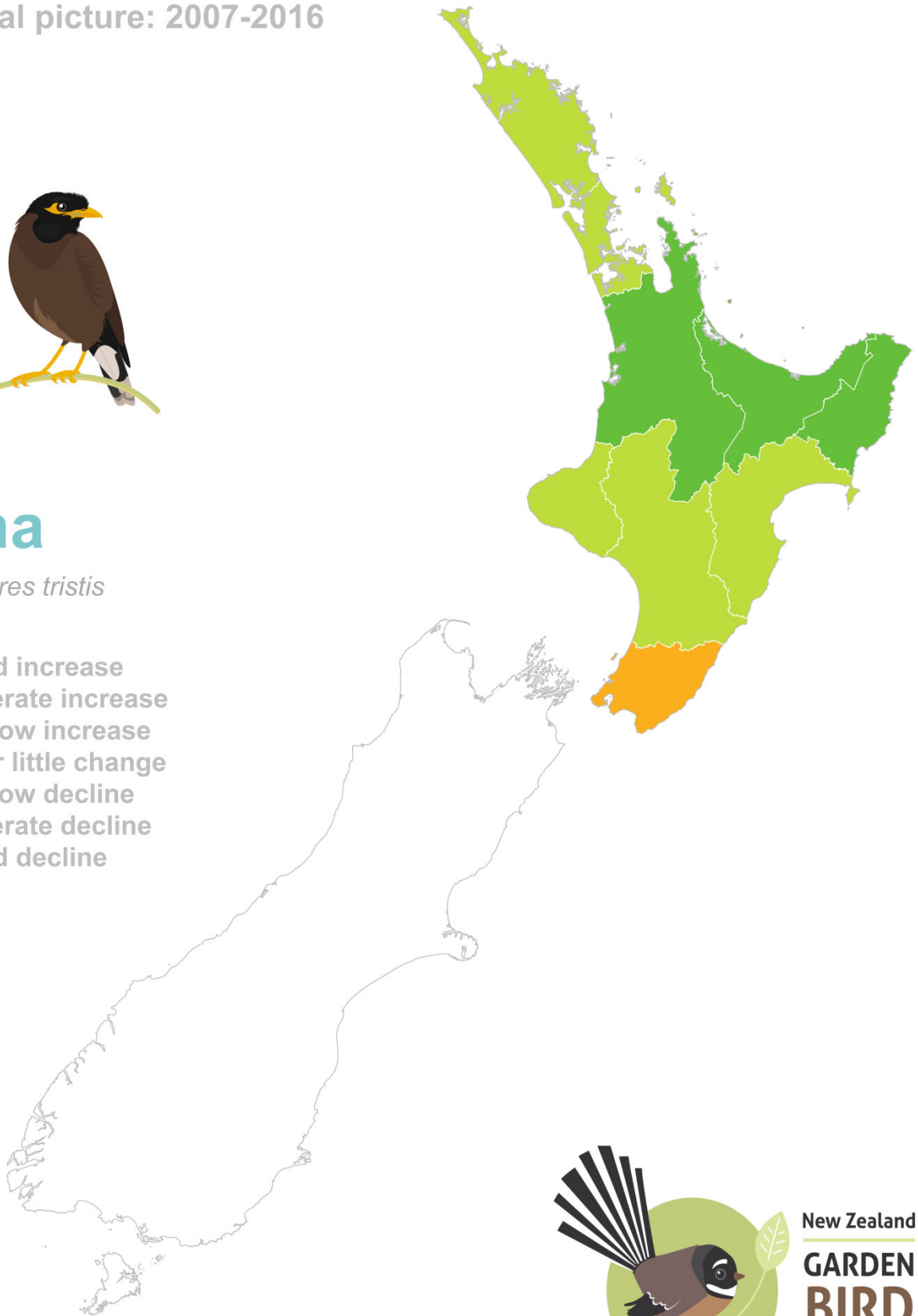
Regional picture: 2007-2016



Myna

Acridotheres tristis

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



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New Zealand pigeon

Kererū



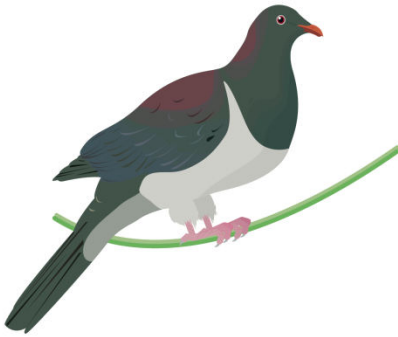
**LITTLE OR NO CHANGE
NATIONALLY**

Estimated change in counts
between -13% and 0%

Shallow declines in eight regions around the country, with a possible moderate decline in Otago and shallow increase in Wellington.

How have garden bird counts changed?

Regional picture: 2007-2016

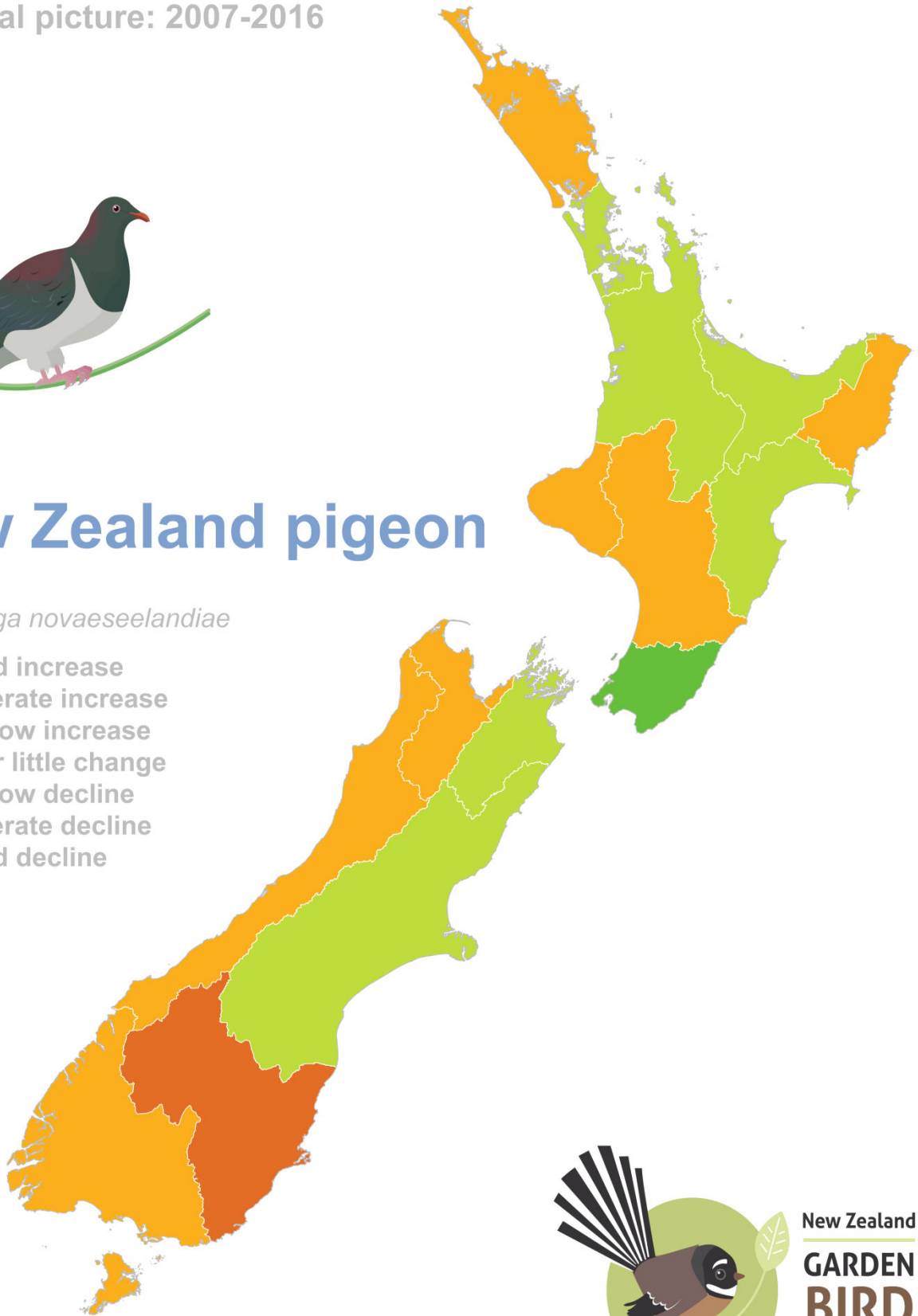


New Zealand pigeon

Kererū

Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



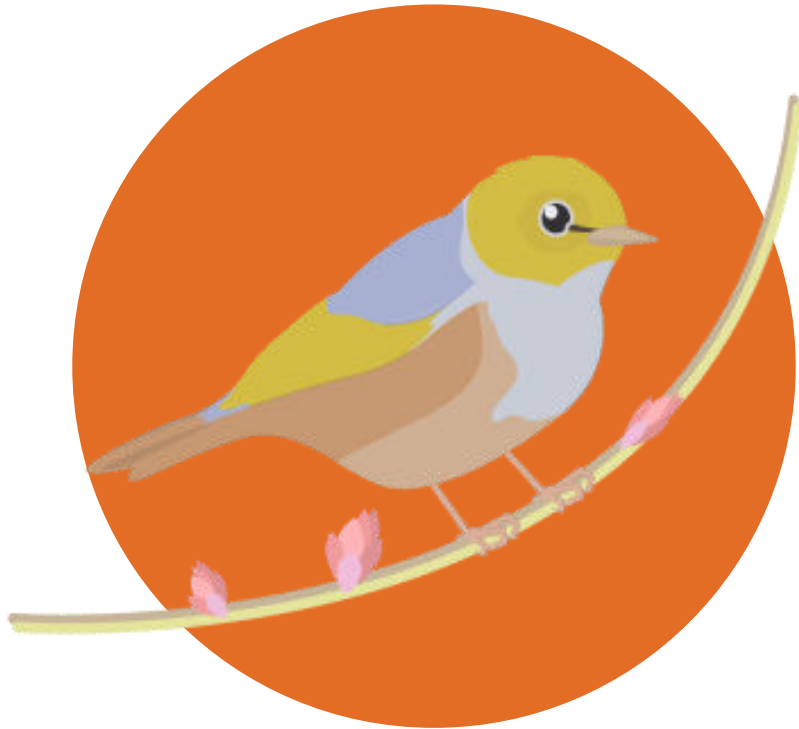
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Silvereye

Tauhou



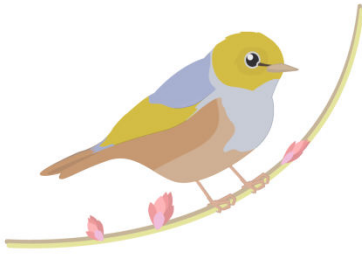
MODERATE DECLINE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between -46% and -42%

Moderate decline across all regions, except Otago and Southland where the declines are rapid.

How have garden bird counts changed?

Regional picture: 2007-2016

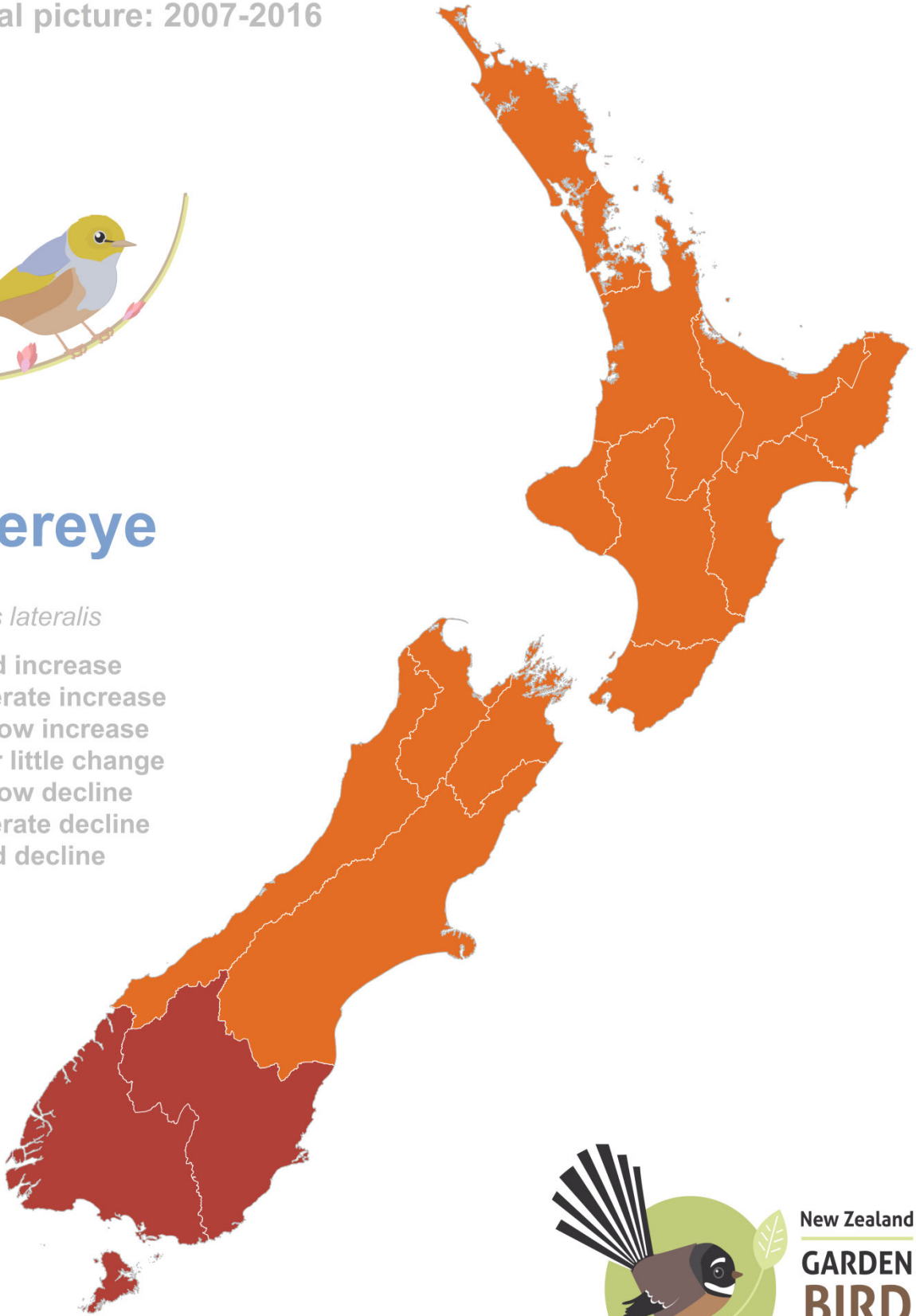


Silvereye

Tauhou

Zosterops lateralis

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



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Starling



MODERATE DECLINE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between -39% and -32%.

Moderate decline consistent across all regions.

How have garden bird counts changed?

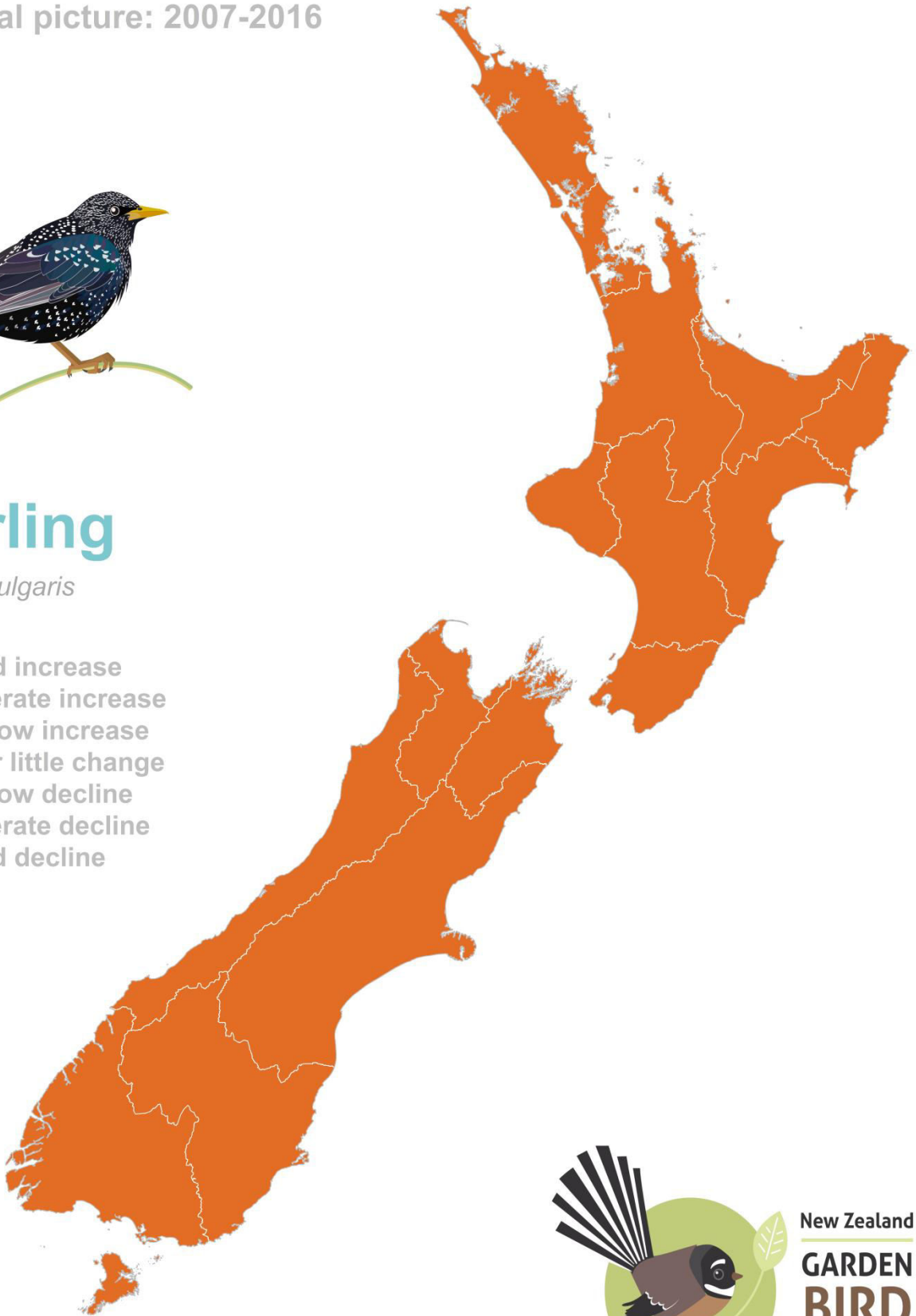
Regional picture: 2007-2016



Starling

Sturnus vulgaris

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



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Song thrush



MODERATE DECLINE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between -29% and -24%

Moderate decline mostly in the Southern regions.
Elsewhere, declines were shallow.

How have garden bird counts changed?

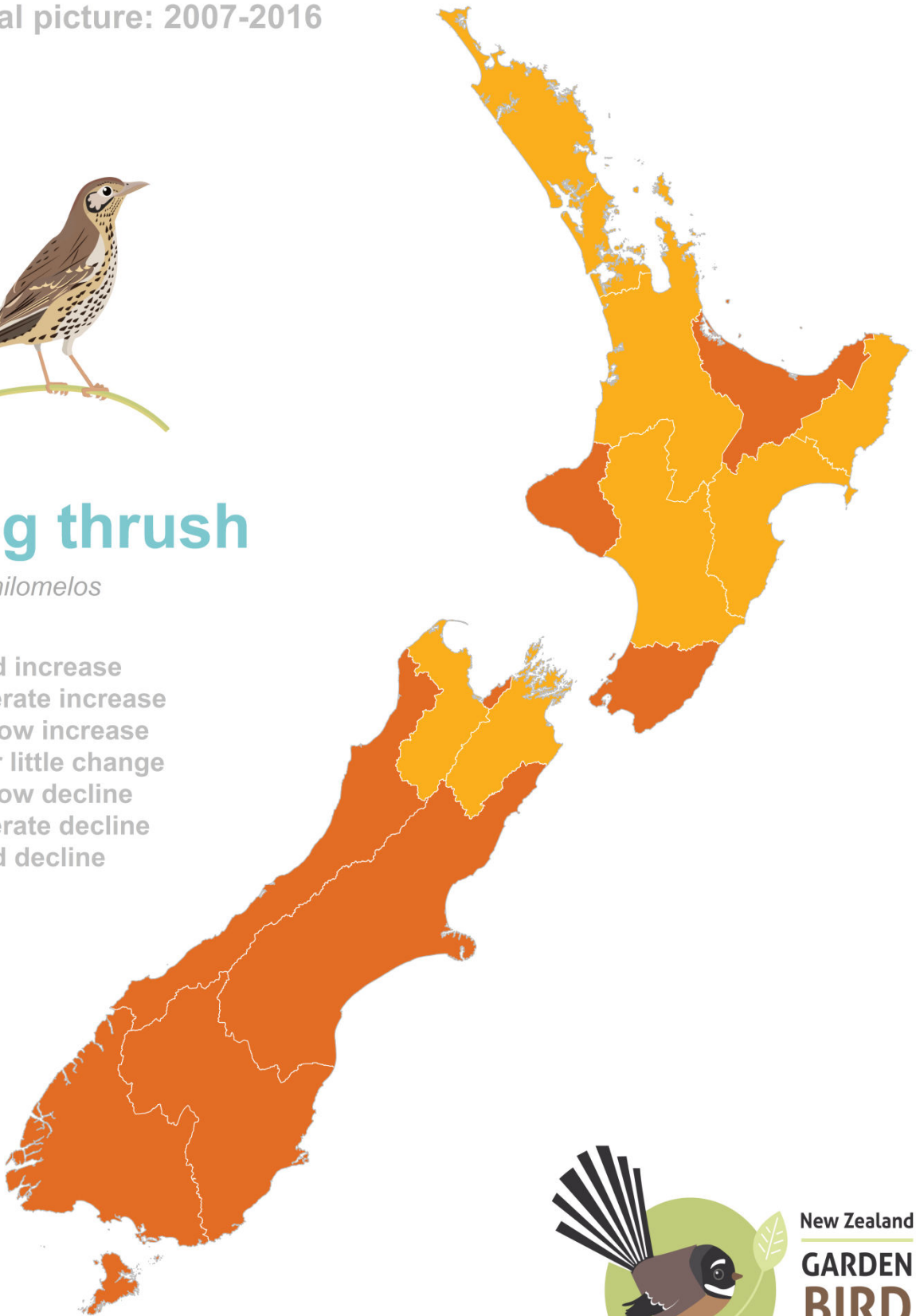
Regional picture: 2007-2016



Song thrush

Turdus philomelos

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline

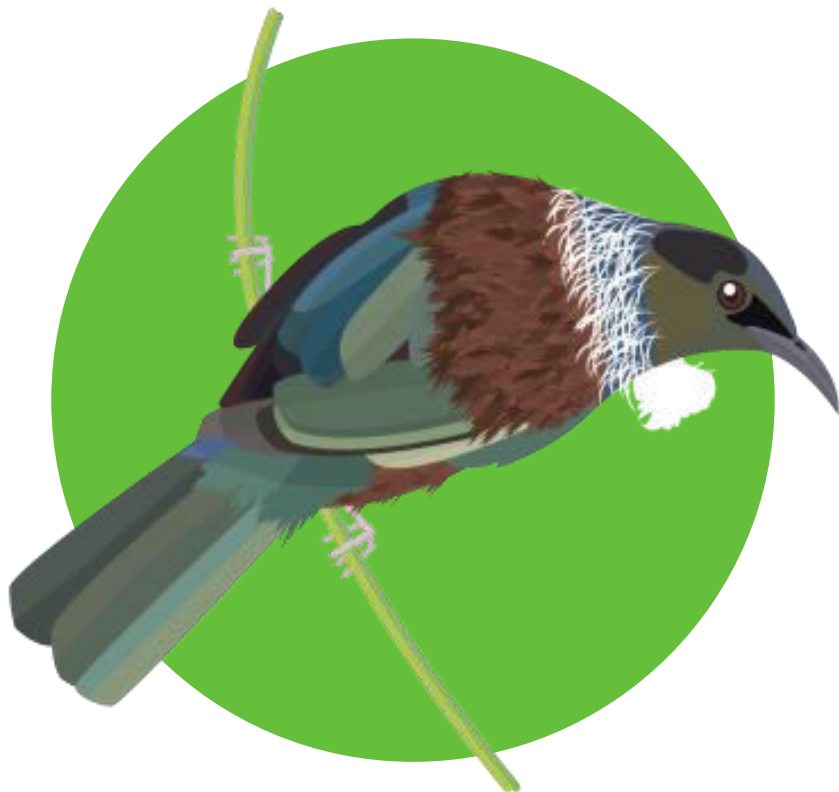


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Tūī Kōkō



SHALLOW INCREASE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between 10% and 18%

Shallow increase in most regions, except in Canterbury where counts almost doubled (albeit starting from a very low count).

How have garden bird counts changed?

Regional picture: 2007-2016

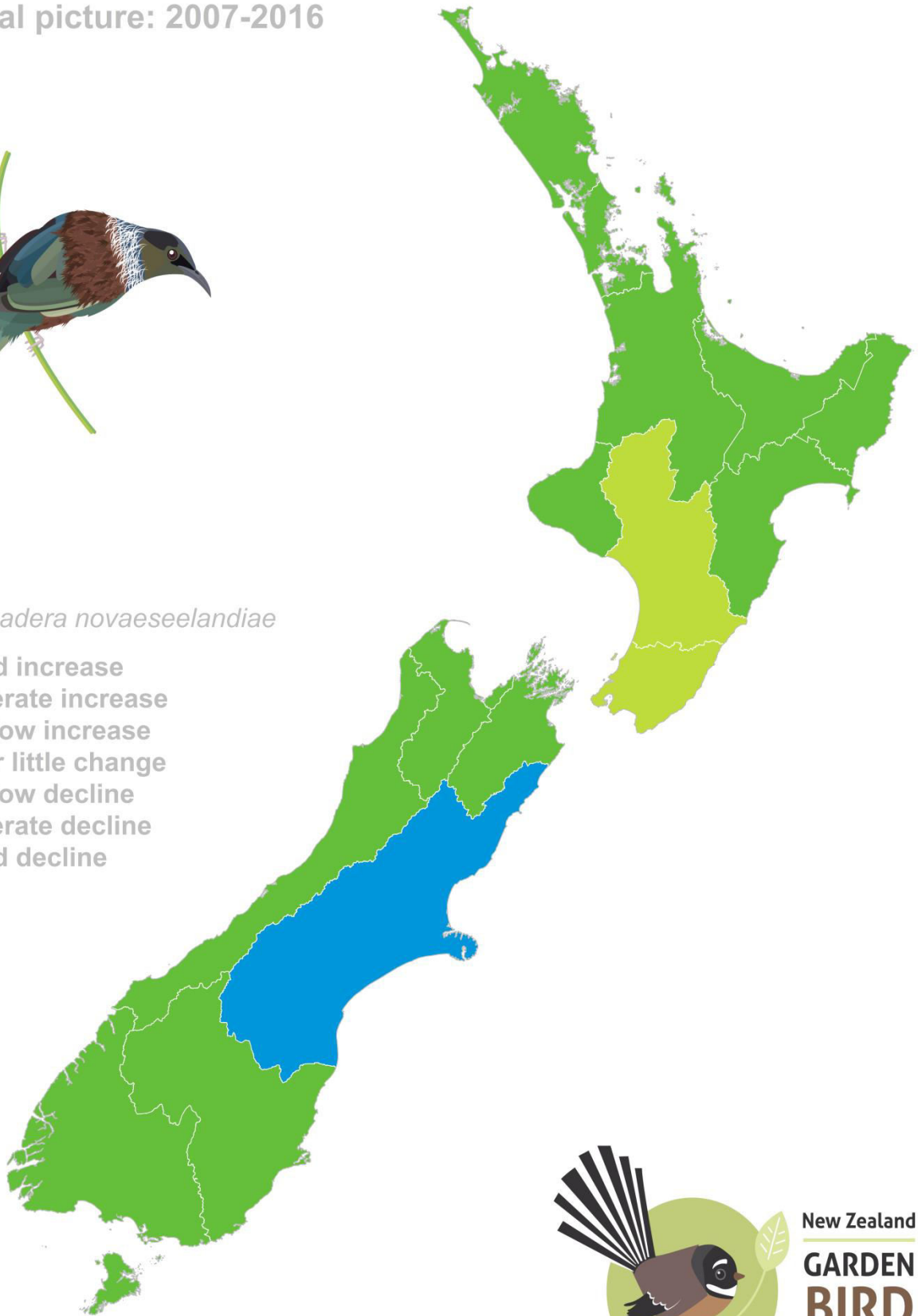


Tūi

Kōkō

Prothemadera novaeseelandiae

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



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Welcome swallow

Warou



MODERATE INCREASE NATIONALLY

Estimated change in counts
between 39% and 65%

Moderate increase in five regions on the North Island.
Elsewhere, generally little or no change.

How have garden bird counts changed?

Regional picture: 2007-2016

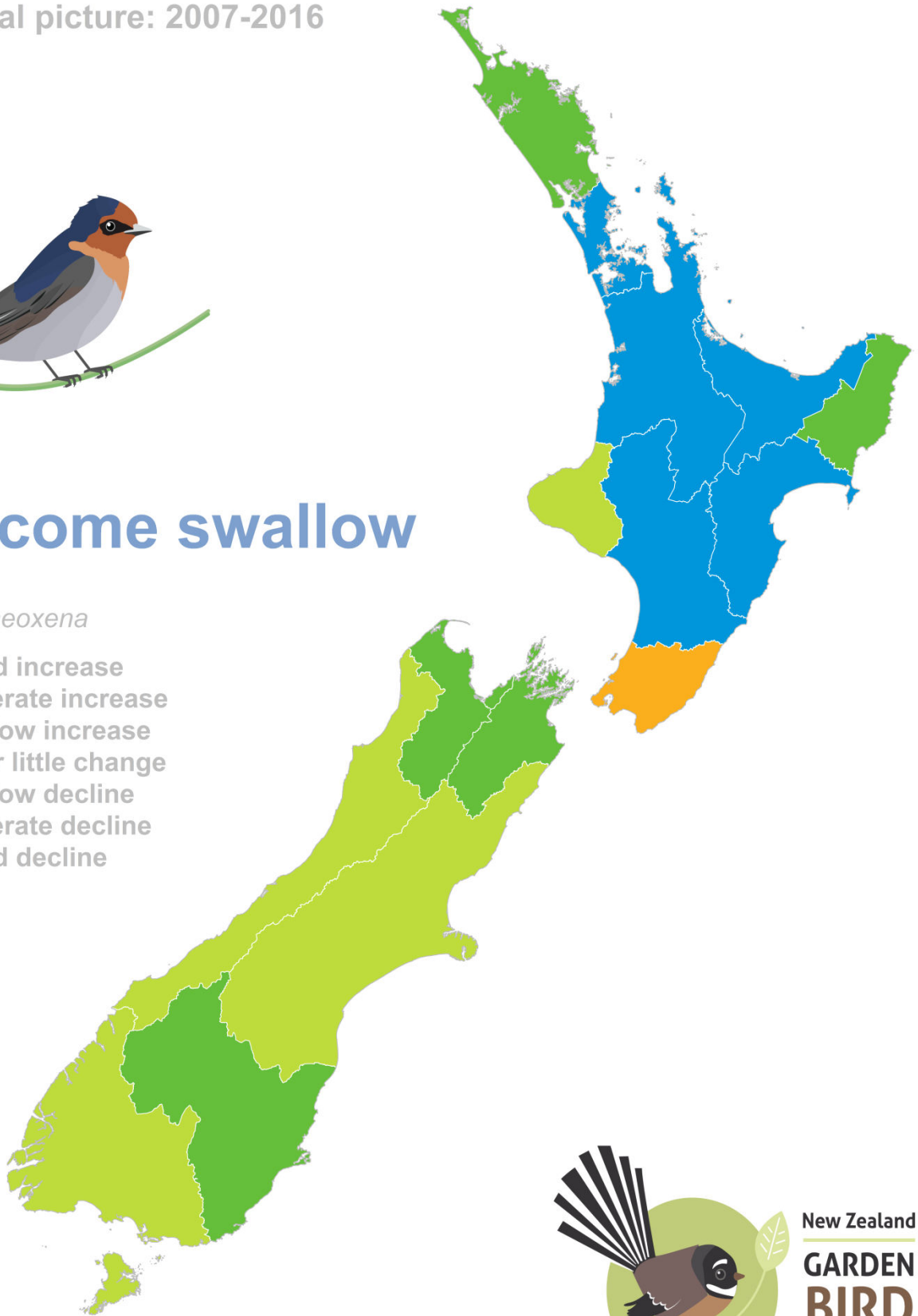


Welcome swallow

Warou

Hirundo neoxena

- Rapid increase
- Moderate increase
- Shallow increase
- No or little change
- Shallow decline
- Moderate decline
- Rapid decline



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2017

24 June to 2 July

Visit our webpage to learn more:
gardenbirdsurvey.landcareresearch.co.nz



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This report should be referenced as: MacLeod CJ, Howard S, Green P, Gormley AM, Wehi P, Brandt AJ, Spurr EB. 2017. State of New Zealand Garden Birds 2016. Te āhua o ngā manu o te kāri i Aotearoa. Landcare Research, Lincoln. ISBN 978-0-947525-17-0.



**Forest
& Bird**



Birds New Zealand



Topflite



NatureWatch



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