

## KEA SIGHTING FORM

Ballot Block:   
 Period:   
 Permit #:   
 Name:   
 Phone:   
 Email:

Hunting day	Est. max number of Kea seen	Largest group of Kea Seen	Number of Kea heard only
Saturday			
Sunday			
Monday			
Tuesday			
Wednesday			
Thursday			
Friday			
Saturday			

## SEX AND LIFE STAGE DESCRIPTIONS

Hunting day	Sex identified (number)			Life stage (number)			
	M	F	UN	FL	Juvi	Sub-A	Adult
Saturday							
Sunday							
Monday							
Tuesday							
Wednesday							
Thursday							
Friday							
Saturday							

Did you see any ankle bands on kea?

☐ Yes
 ☐ No

Continued overleaf →

(If yes, please use your spotting scope or camera to zoom in and check the colours and markings on bands)

HUNTING DAY	BANDS OBSERVED i.e. two yellow strips on black band

Behaviour (tick those that apply):

☐ Calling
 ☐ Flying
 ☐ Feeding  
☐ Resting
 ☐ Preening

Interacting with:

☐ Other kea
 ☐ Humans
 ☐ Non-natural objects

GENERAL AREAS OBSERVED

(e.g. bush/ alpine zone/ at camp/ at tahr carcass)

OTHER OBSERVATIONS

(i.e., feeding on tahr carcasses/ attacking your gear)

HOW MUCH DO YOU VALUE SEEING KEA ON YOUR HUNTING TRIP?

Not at all
  1
  2
  3
  4
  5
 Highly value



## TAHR BALLOT KEA SIGHTINGS PROJECT





This project has been designed so that hunters in the ballot can make a valuable contribution to the conservation of the world's only alpine parrot.

The ballot area is particularly important as we know that Kea feed on tahr carcasses in the winter and this protein source may important to their nesting success. By recording kea sightings and individually banded kea we gain a better understanding of how far and where they move, how many new birds are recruited into the population each year and lots more.

## KEA SIGHTINGS PROJECT

The Kea Sightings Project is run by small group of volunteers who are passionate about kea. They aim to make people aware of the plight of the kea, to encourage everyone to be actively involved in saving this amazing species, and to gather useful scientific information on kea ecology and behaviour.

For more information on our collaborative effort, links to the wider Kea project & how you can get behind it go to:  
[www.nztf.org.nz](http://www.nztf.org.nz)

## LIFE STAGES

### FLEDGLING (FL): THIS YEAR'S CHICK

**Crown:** very pale-yellow  
**Ceres and eyelids:** bright pale yellow  
**Plumage:** Immaculate. Will not show moult



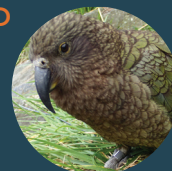
### JUVENILE (JUVI): PREVIOUS YEARS CHICK

**Crown:** still pale but not glaringly so  
**Ceres and eyelids:** rich yellow  
**Plumage:** many worn feathers, may be moulting



### SUBADULT (SUB-A): 2-4 YEARS OLD

**Crown:** dark  
**Ceres and eyelids:** splotchy mix of yellow and black  
**Plumage:** Generally tidy, may be moulting



### ADULT: 4 YEARS PLUS

**Crown:** dark  
**Ceres and eyelids:** mostly dark. May have traces of yellow  
**Plumage:** Generally tidy, may be moulting

### ADULT FEMALE:

Generally smaller than male  
**Weight:** Up to 800g  
Bill appears straighter and smaller than male  
**Bill length:** 39mm – 50mm  
**Skull length:** 59mm- 67mm



### ADULT MALE:

Generally larger than female  
**Weight:** Over 1 kg  
Bill appears long and more curved  
**Bill length:** (longer than female) 47mm – 55mm  
**Skull length:** (also longer than female) 64mm - 70mm



\*UN – unable to distinguish sex

## FUN KEA FACTS

The kea lineage, along with the kaka and the kakapo likely diverged from other parrots between 55 – 85 million years ago.

Kea play a vitally important part in maintaining the health of our alpine ecosystems through;

- distribution of seed in high country areas,
- potentially pollination of native vegetation
- consumption of larvae that live inside mountain daises which would otherwise predate on the flower
- scavenging carcasses, similar to the role held by wolves in Yellowstone National Park.

Kea are a highly social species which exhibit complex social and cognitive behaviours throughout all life stages. Studies on kea social interactions, neophilic behaviours and communication indicate a level of cultural learning in this species.



## PRIZE DRAW

To enter the prize draw simply fill out your Kea sighting form during your hunt and place into the box located at your helicopter pad. Prizes will be drawn on 1st of August 2021.

Conditions of entry: One sighting form per hunting party. Prizes will be sent to the main applicant to be shared with their hunting party. Incomplete forms will not be eligible for this draw. If ballot permit number is unknown during the trip, leave blank and if drawn the NZTF will contact you.