

TAXON SUMMARY

Grey Fantail (Lord Howe Island)

1	Family	Dicruridae
2	Scientific Name	<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa cervina</i> (Ramsay, 1879)
3	Common Name	Grey Fantail (Lord Howe Island)
4	Conservation status	Extinct

5 Reasons for listing

There have been no records of this subspecies since 1924.

6 Intraspecific taxa

R. f. pelzelni (Norfolk I.) is Vulnerable. *R. f. keasti* (northern and central, near-coastal Queensland), *R. f. alisteri* (south-eastern Australia), *R. f. albiscapa* (Tasmania), *R. f. preissi* (south-western Australia), and *R. f. albicauda* (central Australia and inland Western Australia) are all Least Concern, as is the species.

7 Past range and abundance

This subspecies of Grey Fantail was endemic to Lord Howe I., where it probably occupied all wooded habitats (Hindwood, 1940). It was common in 1909 (Hull, 1909), but has not been recorded since 1924 (Hindwood, 1940).

8 Ecology

On Lord Howe I., the Grey Fantail was a tame forest bird that nested on horizontal branches and was often found near houses (Hull, 1909).

9 Reasons for extinction

Black Rats *Rattus rattus* colonised the island from a shipwreck in 1918. By May 1924, the fantail was rare (Hindwood, 1940). It was not found in 1928 (Sharland, 1929).

10 Bibliography

Hindwood, K. A. 1940. The birds of Lord Howe Island. *Emu* 40:1-86.

Hull, A. F. B. 1909. The birds of Lord Howe and Norfolk Islands. *Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. W.* 34:636-693.

Sharland, G. S. M. 1929. The land birds of Lord Howe Island. *Emu* 29:5-11.

Comments received from

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