

TAXON SUMMARY

Lord Howe Gerygone

1	Family	Pardalotidae
2	Scientific Name	<i>Gerygone insularis</i> Ramsay, 1879
3	Common Name	Lord Howe Gerygone
4	Conservation status	Extinct

5 Reasons for listing

There have been no records of this species since 1928.

6 Intraspecific taxa

G. insularis, along with *G. modesta* (Norfolk I.; Vulnerable) is sometimes considered a subspecies of *G. igata* (New Zealand; Least Concern; Schodde and Mason, 1999).

7 Past range and abundance

The Lord Howe Gerygone was endemic to Lord Howe I. Until the early 20th century, it was considered abundant. Even 10 years after the arrival of Black Rats *Rattus rattus* in 1918 its call was heard frequently (Sharland, 1929). However, it was neither seen nor heard during searches in 1936 (Hindwood, 1940), and there have been no confirmed records since (McKean and Hindwood, 1964).

8 Ecology

Almost nothing is known of the biology of the Lord Howe Gerygone except that it was found in forests around the settlement (Sharland, 1929).

9 Reasons for extinction

Black Rats, which colonised the island from a wrecked ship in 1918, were almost certainly responsible for the Lord Howe Gerygone's extinction (Hindwood, 1940).

10 Bibliography

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

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Schodde, R. and Mason, I. J. 1999. *The Directory of Australian Birds: Passerines*. CSIRO, Collingwood, Victoria.

Sharland, M. S. R. 1929. Land birds of Lord Howe Island. *Emu* 29:5-11.

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