

TAXON SUMMARY

Tasman Starling (Norfolk Island)

1	Family	Sturnidae
2	Scientific Name	<i>Aplonis fusca fusca</i> Gould, 1836
3	Common Name	Tasman Starling (Norfolk Island)
4	Conservation status	Extinct

5 Reasons for listing

There have been no records of this subspecies since 1923.

6 Intraspecific taxa

A. f. hulliana (Lord Howe I.) is also extinct.

7 Past range and abundance

This subspecies of the Tasman Starling was endemic to Norfolk I. (Schodde *et al.*, 1983). It has not been recorded since 1923. There are no estimates of the previous population size.

8 Ecology

The preferred habitat of the Norfolk Island subspecies of the Tasman Starling has not been recorded, but was probably rainforest.

9 Reasons for extinction

Clearance for agriculture would have reduced the area of available native habitat and hence population size. In the ten years before extinction, European Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Song Thrush *T. philomelos* and Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* were introduced to the island, and probably out-competed the native starling (Schodde *et al.*, 1983, M. Christian).

10 Bibliography

Schodde, R., Fullagar, P. and Hermes, N. 1983. *A Review of Norfolk Birds: Past and Present*. Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service, Canberra.

Comments received from

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