Watola, G. 2011. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (3rd Edition in prep.)
Based on: Watola, G. 2009. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (2nd Edition)
Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.
Updated and amended text supplied by George Watola, October, 2011.
Page numbers follow Watola, G. 2009 (2nd Edition)
South Island adzebill: p 254.

South Island Adzebill *Aptornis defossor* Owen 1871
Bones were discovered by the Rev. Richard Taylor in a cave near Oamaru in 1863. Owen (1871) described it some time later.

SUB-FOSSIL SPECIES

This species is considered to have become extinct since human settlement in the 14th century.