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)
Snipe-rail: p 254.

Snipe-rail Capellirallus karamu Falla 1954

It was discovered by members of the N.Z. Speleogical Society in a limestone cave at Karamu, near Pirongia, in 1950. It had an extremely long bill (70 mm), relative to the bird's size, the longest of any rail. It was flightless, and was gone before Europeans arrived, probably killed off by the Kiore.

SUB-FOSSIL SPECIES

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