

Watola, G. 2011. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (3rd Edition in prep.)  
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Rifleman: pp 183-184.

**North Island Rifleman** *Acanthisitta chloris granti* Mathews & Iredale, 1913 Endemic  
1913 North Island

Oliver said it was probably the “piripiri” described by Yate (1835). “A small bird, three inches long; with brown plumage, tinged with yellow and dark purple. Its beak is half an inch long, and very slender. The outer feathers on the breast are white; legs of a dark brown; and the feet yellow. It makes a sucking noise; is easily caught with the hand; builds a very compact nest at the tops of the Kauri-tree; and lays four small white eggs, not much larger than a pea” (Yate 1835).

It was collected at Port Nicholson by Percy Earl about 1840. Mathews & Iredale described it as late as 1913.

**South Island Rifleman** (Titipounamu) *Acanthisitta chloris chloris* (Sparrman 1787), Endemic  
2/4/1773 Dusky Sound, Fiordland

The Rifleman was found at Dusky Sound and Queen Charlotte Sound in 1773 (Hoare 1982). Sparrman formally described it, but the locality was wrongly attributed to the Cape of Good Hope. The first record was that of Forster, who collected a very yellow Rifleman at Dusky Sound in 1773, which was described by Latham as the Citrine Warbler, and later formally named by Gmelin *Motacilla citrina*. Oliver as late as 1955 maintained this was a good subspecies, found in Fiordland and Nelson.