

Text extracted from Gill B.J.; Bell, B.D.; Chambers, G.K.; Medway, D.G.; Palma, R.L.; Scofield, R.P.; Tennyson, A.J.D.; Worthy, T.H. 2010. *Checklist of the birds of New Zealand, Norfolk and Macquarie Islands, and the Ross Dependency, Antarctica*. 4th edition. Wellington, Te Papa Press and Ornithological Society of New Zealand. Pages 177-178 & 184.

Order GRUIFORMES: Rails, Cranes and Allies

Family RALLIDAE Rafinesque: Rails, Gallinules and Coots

This classification and nomenclature of rails largely follows Taylor & van Perlo (1998).

Subfamily RALLINAE Rafinesque: Rails, Gallinules and Coots

Rallia Rafinesque, 1815: *Analyse de la Nature*: 70 – Type genus *Rallus* Linnaeus, 1758.

Genus † *Capellirallus* Falla

Capellirallus Falla, 1954: *Rec. Auck. Inst. Museum* 4: 242 – Type species (by original designation) *Capellirallus karamu* Falla.

† *Capellirallus karamu* Falla

Snipe-rail

Capellirallus karamu Falla, 1954: *Rec. Auck. Inst. Museum* 4: 242, pls 40–42 – Karamu Cave, near Hamilton.

North Island, New Zealand. Extinct prehistorically: known from numerous Late Pleistocene and Holocene sites, including caves, dunes, swamps and middens. Very distinctive; crane-sized with perhaps the longest bill and smallest wings (relative to body size) of any rail.