

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)
Dieffenbach's rail: pp 113-114.

Dieffenbach's Rail (Moeriki) *Gallirallus dieffenbachii* (G.R. Gray 1843), Endemic
July 1840 Chatham Islands

Ernst Dieffenbach (1843) collected the only known specimen between May and July 1840. There is reputedly another specimen in the Bremen Museum. It weighed nearly twice as much as the Banded Rail, and was flightless. Cats had wiped it out by 1872.