

TAXON SUMMARY

Robust White-eye

1	Family	Zosteropidae
2	Scientific Name	<i>Zosterops strenuus</i> Gould, 1855
3	Common Name	Robust White-eye
4	Conservation status	Extinct

5 Reasons for listing

This subspecies was last seen 1918.

6 Intraspecific taxa

None described, although this species is sometimes considered to be a subspecies of *Z. tenuirostris* along with *Z. t. tenuirostris* of Norfolk I. (Schodde and Mason, 1999).

7 Past range and abundance

The Robust White-eye was endemic to Lord Howe I. (Mathews, 1929). It was formerly numerous, but rapidly declined after 1918 (Hindwood, 1940). It could not be found in 1928 (Sharland, 1929) and has not been recorded since.

8 Ecology

The Robust White-eye occurred in lowland forest areas (Hindwood, 1940).

9 Reasons for extinction

Predation by Black Rats *Rattus rattus*, introduced accidentally in 1918 after a shipwreck, are the mostly likely cause of extinction (Hindwood, 1940).

10 Bibliography

Fullagar, P. 1992. Robust White-eye. Pp. 176-177 in *Threatened and Extinct Birds of Australia. RAOU Report 82*. S.T. Garnett (ed.). Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union, Melbourne, and Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service, Canberra.

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Mathews, G. M. 1929. *The Birds of Norfolk and Lord Howe Islands*. The Author, London.

Schodde, R. and Mason, I. J. 1999. *The Directory of Australian Birds: Passerines*. CSIRO, Collingwood, Victoria.

Sharland, M. S. R. 1929. Land birds of Lord Howe Island. *Emu* 29:5-11.

Text adapted from

Fullagar (1992).

Comments received from

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