

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)
Crested moa: p 248.

Crested Moa *Pachyornis australis* Oliver 1949, South Island

A skull was found by A. McKay in 1879 in a cave on Salisbury Tableland, at the headwaters of the Takaka River, Nelson.

SUB-FOSSIL SPECIES

These species are considered to have become extinct since human settlement in the 14th century.

Up to 64 species and 20 genera of Moa have been recognized over the last 160 years. Turbott (1990) recognized 11 species in two families, Emeidae and Dinornithidae. Baker et al. (2005) using ancient DNA analysis found that there were fourteen lineages of Moa, which they thought probably corresponded to 14 distinct species. Bunce et al. (2009) have now found that there were only nine species in six genera, but *Megalapteryx* is placed in its own (basal) family. The sequence differs from Checklist Committee (OSNZ) (2010). Moas may have been extinguished in a very short time, only 50-160 years after first contact by Polynesians (Holdaway & Jacomb 2000).

Ka ngaro i te ngaro a te moa - lost as the moa is lost.