

MO (Moderate) *Turdus merula*

Date assessed	2021-10-04
Year published	2023
Eicat category	MO (Moderate)
Justification for EICAT assessment	The New Zealand Placostylus (<i>Placostylus bivaricosus</i>) is preyed on by Eurasian Blackbirds, which is causing the decline of this species. Other causes for the decline include habitat clearing and modification, predation and habitat disturbance by other exotic fauna species and possibly herbicide and pesticide use. There is no evidence that this has caused a local extinction of these species (NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service 2001, Threatened Species Scientific Committee).
Confidence rating	Low
Mechanism(s) of maximum impact	Predation
Countries of most severe impact	Australia
Description of impact	The Eurasian Blackbird feeds on the native flora and fauna, causing the decline of the Lord Howe Placostylus in New Zealand. It also spreads the seeds of invasive plant species.
Assessor	Thomas Evans; Tom Allmert
Contributors	
Reviewers	EICAT authority
Recommended citation	Thomas Evans; Tom Allmert. (2025). <i>Turdus merula</i> . IUCN Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (EICAT) .

