



Does the South Island kokako still exist? A Conservation Department team heads for Stewart Island this month to find the answer to that question in an intensive three-week search. In 1986 intrepid ornithologist Rhys Buckingham believed he spotted the elusive bird and later a feather of the orange wattled crow was discovered near the site. Forest and Bird has donated \$4700 towards the cost of the expedition, funded out of our threatened species appeal. The illustration is from Buller's Birds of New Zealand, which depicts the blue wattled North Island kokako as well, itself under severe threat.