

**MO (Moderate)** *Turdus merula*

<b>Date assessed</b>	2021-10-04
<b>Year published</b>	2023
<b>Eicat category</b>	MO (Moderate)
<b>Justification for EICAT assessment</b>	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).
<b>Confidence rating</b>	Low
<b>Mechanism(s) of maximum impact</b>	Predation
<b>Countries of most severe impact</b>	Australia
<b>Description of impact</b>	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.
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<b>Contributors</b>	
<b>Reviewers</b>	EICAT authority
<b>Recommended citation</b>	Thomas Evans; Tom Allmert. (2026). <i>Turdus merula</i> . <a href="#">IUCN Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (EICAT)</a> .

