

RECOVERY OUTLINE

Black Currawong (King Island)

1	Family	Artamidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Strepera fuliginosa colei</i> Mathews, 1916
3	Common name	Black Currawong (King Island)
4	Conservation status	Vulnerable: D1

5 Reasons for listing

The population of this subspecies probably contains about 500 mature individuals (Vulnerable: D1).

	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	800 km ²	high
trend	stable	high
Area of occupancy	500 km ²	low
trend	stable	medium
No. of breeding birds	500	low
trend	stable	medium
No. of sub-populations	1	high
Generation time	5 years	low

6 Intraspecific taxa

S. f. fuliginosa (Tasmania) and *S. f. parvior* (Flinders I.) are Least Concern.

7 Past range and abundance

Endemic to King I. Tas. (Schodde and Mason, 1999).

8 Present range and abundance

Occurs sporadically in all parts of the island (Green and McGarvie, 1971).

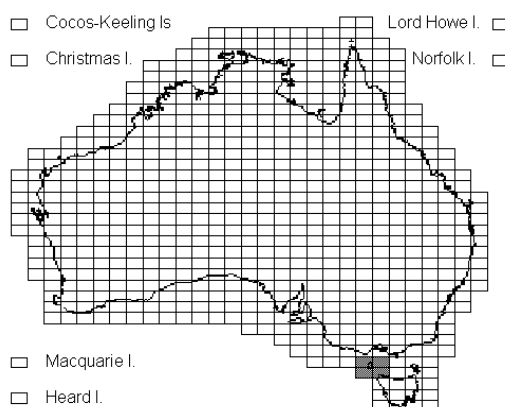
9 Ecology

Black Currawongs are omnivorous, having a diet of insects, carrion, fruit and small vertebrates (Blakers *et al.*, 1984). On King I., Black Currawongs live in wet sclerophyll forest, woodland and heath, and feed on beaches amongst seaweed and in pasture (Green and McGarvie, 1971). They build their open stick nests in trees, laying 2-3 eggs, like the Tasmanian subspecies (Beruldsen, 1980).

10 Threats

The scarcity of the Black Currawong on King I. has been attributed to a lack of forested habitat in which

to breed (Schodde and Mason, 1999), but may be the result of a longer-term decline.



11 Information required

11.1 Measurement of population size and trends.

12 Recovery objectives

12.1 To ensure the population is stable over an extended period.

13 Actions completed or under way

None.

14 Management actions required

14.1 Initiate monitoring of population size.

14.2 If trends negative, determine necessary conservation management.

15 Organisations responsible for conservation

Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service.

16 Other organisations involved

Local government, Tasmanian Forestry Commission, bird-watching societies.

17 Staff and financial resources required for recovery to be carried out

Staff resources required 2001-2005 0.2 Project Officer¹

Financial resources required 2001-2005

Action	Conservation agencies	Other funding sources	Total
Determine population size and management requirements ¹	\$10,000	\$1,500	\$11,500
Monitoring ¹	\$500	\$1,500	\$2,000
Total	\$10,500	\$3,000	\$13,500

¹ Costs shared among all six threatened King I. taxa: Green Rosella, Orange-bellied Parrot, Scrubtit, Brown Thornbill, Yellow Wattlebird and Black Currawong

18 Bibliography

Beruldsen, G. R. 1980. *A Field Guide to Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds*. Rigby, Adelaide.

Blakers, M., Davies, S. J. J. F. and Reilly, P. N. 1984. *The Atlas of Australian Birds*. RAOU and Melbourne University Press, Melbourne.

Green, R. and McGarvie, A. M. 1971. The birds of King Island. *Rec. Queen Vic. Museum* 40:1- 42.

Schodde, R. and Mason, I. J. 1999. *The Directory of Australian Birds: Passerines*. CSIRO Wildlife and Ecology, Canberra.

Comments received from

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