

TAXON SUMMARY

Black-necked Stork

1	Family	Ciconiidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus australis</i> (Latham, 1790)
3	Common name	Black-necked Stork
4	Conservation status	Least Concern

5 Reasons for listing

Although the subspecies is scarce in the south-east extremity of its range, it remains widespread and common throughout the north. Most of the population occurs in Australia, so global status of subspecies is also Least Concern.

Australian population	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	2,500,000 km ²	medium
trend	stable	high
Area of occupancy	200,000 km ²	low
trend	stable	high
No. of breeding birds	20,000	low
trend	stable	medium
No. of sub-populations	1	high
Generation time	20 years	low
Global population share	95 %	low
Level of genetic exchange	medium	low

6 Intraspecific taxa

The nominate subspecies from southern Asia does not occur in Australian territory. On the basis of its rapid rate of decline, global status of the species is Near Threatened.

7 Past range and abundance

Across northern Australia from Pilbara, W. A., to eastern Queensland and south along a narrow coastal strip in New South Wales as far as Hunter R. Also present in southern New Guinea (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).

8 Present range and abundance

As above, although few records from New South Wales. Population size estimated at 1,800 individuals at Kakadu (Morton *et al.*, 1993).

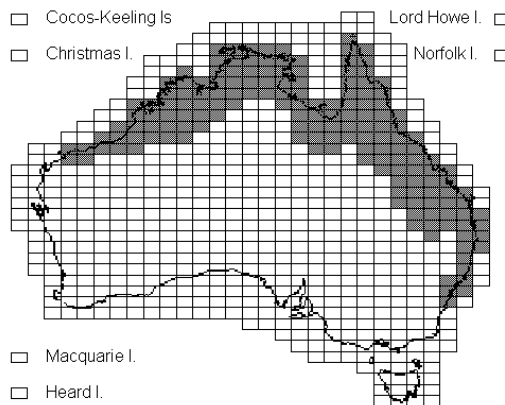
9 Ecology

Black-necked Storks feed in shallow water up to 0.5 m deep and take fish, reptiles and frogs. They build large

stick nests in trees nearby where they lay 2-4 eggs (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).

10 Threats

This subspecies has been thought to be threatened by disturbance and loss of habitat, but has proved remarkably resilient to the intensification of land use in eastern Australia.



11 Recommended actions

11.1 Continue monitoring species in New South Wales.

12 Bibliography

Marchant, S. and Higgins, P. J. (eds) 1990. *The Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Morton, S. R., Brennan, K. G. and Armstrong, M. D. 1993. Distribution and abundance of Brolgas and Black-necked Storks in the Alligator Rivers Region, Northern Territory. *Emu*. 93:88-92.

Comments received from

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