

TAXON SUMMARY

# Blue Bonnet (Naretha)

1	Family	Psittacidae
2	Scientific Name	<i>Northiella haematogaster narethae</i> (White, 1921)
3	Common Name	Blue Bonnet (Naretha)
4	Conservation status	Least Concern

5 Reasons for listing

The subspecies is common in the remote habitat in which it occurs, and there is no sign of decline (Least Concern).

	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	120,000 km <sup>2</sup>	low
trend	stable	high
Area of occupancy	30,000 km <sup>2</sup>	low
trend	stable	high
No. of breeding birds	60,000	low
trend	stable	medium
No. of sub-populations	1	medium
Generation time	3 years	low

6 Intraspecific taxa

*N. h. haematogaster* (Murray), *N. h. pallescens* (Cooper) and *N. h. haematorrhous* (Balonne-Warrego) are all Least Concern, as is the species.

7 Past range and abundance

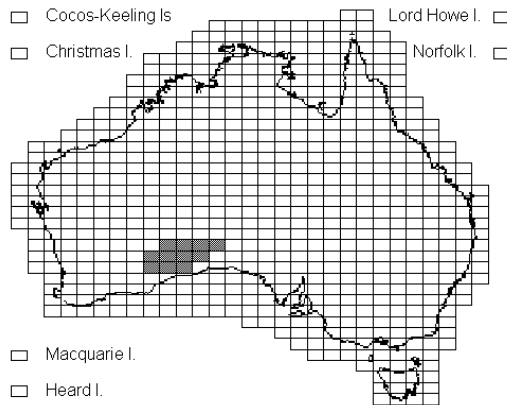
Western side of the Nullarbor Plain, W. A. (Higgins, 1999).

8 Present range and abundance

As above. Recent records of birds on the eastern side of the Nullarbor Plain were probably the result of a deliberate release of captive birds (Blakers *et al.*, 1984).

9 Ecology

Naretha Blue Bonnets are usually found in or within sight of casuarina and acacia woodland, and usually near chenopod shrubland. They are often far from water. They nest in tree hollows, usually laying about 5 eggs. They eat the seeds of both native and exotic plants (Higgins, 1999).



10 Threats

Naretha Blue Bonnets are thought to have been trapped in substantial numbers in the past (Higgins, 1999), but this is no longer a threat after a breeding population was established in captivity (Neesham, 1996, P. Mawson).

11 Recommended actions

None.

12 Bibliography

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

Higgins, P. J. (ed.) 1999. *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds. Vol. 4. Parrots to Dollarbird*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Neesham, H. 1996. Naretha Bluebonnets - Captive breeding program initiated by CALM. Agricultural Federation of Australia Eighth National Convention, Perth, Western Australia.

Comments received from

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