

## TAXON SUMMARY

# Eclectus Parrot (Torres Strait)

1	Family	Psittacidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Eclectus roratus polychloros</i> (Scopoli, 1786)
3	Common name	Eclectus Parrot (Torres Strait)
4	Conservation status	Near Threatened: e

### 5 Reasons for listing

The Australian population of this subspecies is small (Vulnerable: D1) and confined to three small islands with an area of about 100 km<sup>2</sup> (D2). The global status, however, is Least Concern and genetic interchange is likely to be substantial. The Australian status has therefore been downgraded (as per Gärdenfors *et al.*, 1999) to Near Threatened: e (genetic interchange beyond borders).

Australian population	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	300 km <sup>2</sup>	high
trend	stable	high
Area of occupancy	100 km <sup>2</sup>	high
trend	stable	high
No. of breeding birds	300	low
trend	stable	high
No. of sub-populations	1	high
Generation time	10 years	low
Global population share	< 1 %	high
Level of genetic exchange	high	high

### 6 Intraspecific taxa

Of the many other subspecies, only *E. r. macgillivrayi* (Stewart to Pascoe Rivers, Cape York Peninsula) occurs in Australia. It is Near Threatened. Global status of species is Least Concern.

### 7 Past range and abundance

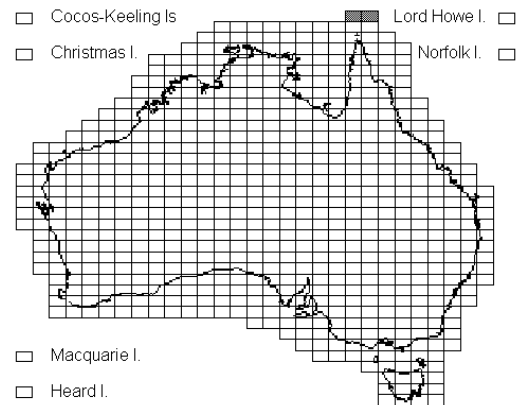
On Boigu, Dauan and Saibai I. in Torres Strait (Draffan *et al.*, 1983), as well as New Guinea lowlands and islands (Schodde and Mason, 1997).

### 8 Present range and abundance

As above.

### 9 Ecology

Eclectus Parrots visit Torres Strait islands on daily foraging trips from their breeding and roosting sites on the New Guinea mainland (Draffan *et al.*, 1983). They have also been seen at hollows in *Pandanus* on Saibai I. (M. Trenerry), suggesting local breeding.



### 10 Threats

There are no immediate threats except, perhaps, those posed to low islands by rising sea levels.

### 11 Recommended actions

- 11.1 Initiate community-based ecotourism business promoting the islands' unique avifauna. Monitoring of sub-populations and habitat could then be undertaken by visiting bird-watchers and local rangers.

### 12 Bibliography

- Draffan, R. D. W., Garnett, S. T. and Malone, G. J. 1983. Bird of the Torres Strait: An annotated list and biogeographic analysis. *Emu* 83:207-234.
- Gärdenfors, U., Rodriguez, J.P., Hilton-Taylor, C., Hyslop, C., Mace, G., Molur, S. and Poss, S. 1999. Draft guidelines for the Application of IUCN Red List Criteria at National and Regional Levels. *Species* 31-32:58-70.
- Schodde, R. and Mason, I. J. 1997. Aves (Columbidae to Coraciidae). *Zoological Catalogue of Australia*. Vol. 37.2. W. W. K. Houston and A. Wells (eds). CSIRO Publishing, Melbourne.

### Comments received from

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