

TAXON SUMMARY

# Peaceful Dove (Torres Strait)

1	Family	Alcedinidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Geopelia placida papua</i> Rand, 1938
3	Common name	Peaceful Dove (Torres Strait)
4	Conservation status	Near Threatened: e

5 Reasons for listing

In Australia, this subspecies is confined to two small islands (Vulnerable: 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	95 km <sup>2</sup>	high
trend	stable	high
No. of breeding birds	2,000	low
trend	stable	high
No. of sub-populations	1	high
Generation time	5 years	low
Global population share	< 1 %	high
Level of genetic exchange	high	high

6 Intraspecific taxa

*G. p. placida* (northern and eastern Australia) and *G. p. clelandi* (Pilbara region, Western Australia) are both Least Concern, as is species' status. Need confirmation that subspecies in Torres Strait is *G. p. papua* (Schodde and Mason, 1997).

7 Past range and abundance

Saibai and possibly Boigu Is, northern Torres Strait, and southern New Guinea (Schodde and Mason, 1997).

8 Present range and abundance

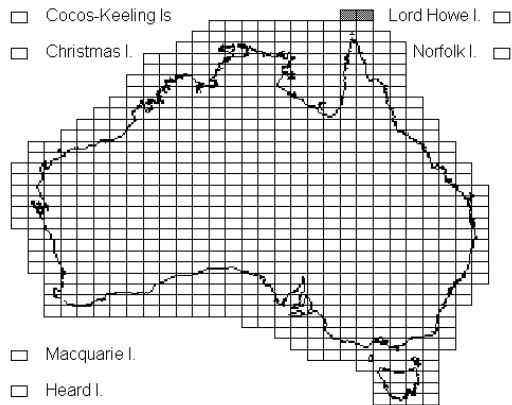
As above.

9 Ecology

This subspecies of Peaceful Dove lives in savanna woodland, laying two eggs in sparse twig nests (Draffan *et al.*, 1983, Higgins and Davies, 1996, Schodde and Mason, 1997).

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.

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Higgins, P. J. and Davies, S. J. J. F. (eds) 1996. *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds. Vol. 3. Snipe to Pigeons*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

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.

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