

TAXON SUMMARY

Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (south-western)

1	Family	Cacatuidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii naso</i> Gould, 1837
3	Common name	Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (south-western)
4	Conservation status	Near Threatened: c

5 Reasons for listing

This subspecies has disappeared from up to 36% of its range and is assumed to have declined in density over at least another 14% that has been partially cleared.

There has thus been a decline in density over half the subspecies range (Near Threatened: c).

	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	40,000 km ²	medium
trend	stable	high
Area of occupancy	1,000 km ²	low
trend	stable	medium
No. of breeding birds	15,000	low
trend	decreasing	low
No. of sub-populations	1	high
Generation time	20 yrs	low

6 Intraspecific taxa

C. b. graptogyne (south-east South Australia, south-west Victoria) is Endangered. *C. b. macrorhynchus* (northern Australia, west of Cape York Peninsula), *C. b. banksii* (eastern Australia, from Cape York Peninsula to Darling Downs) and *C. b. samueli* (semi-arid Australia) are Least Concern, as is the global status of species.

7 Past range and abundance

Endemic to south-west Western Australia, between Albany, Augusta and Perth, and north along the Swan coastal plain as far north as Dandaragan (Saunders, 1977, Johnstone, 1997, Schodde and Mason, 1997, Johnstone and Storr, 1998, Johnstone and Kirkby, 1999).

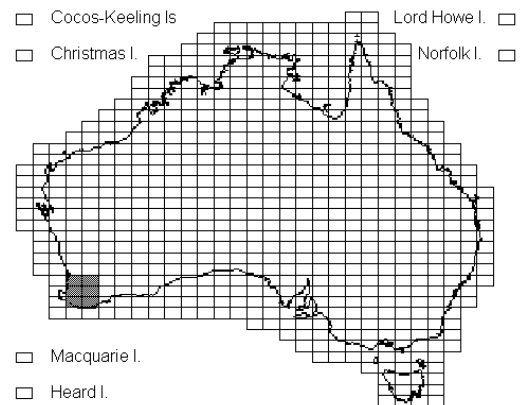
8 Present range and abundance

No longer found on the Swan coastal plain or any further north than Perth. Historical range reduction of 25-30% (Mawson and Johnstone, 1997, Johnstone, 1997), possibly up to 36% (Abbott, 1998). Population estimated at about 15,000 individuals (Abbott, 1998).

9 Ecology

The south-western subspecies of the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo lives in forests of Jarrah *Eucalyptus marginata*, Karri *E. diversicolor* and Marri *E. calophylla*. It feeds primarily on seeds of Marri, which fruit heavily at intervals of three or more years, although takes seed from other eucalypt spp. (Saunders *et al.*, 1985, Johnstone and Kirkby, 1999). It nests in large tree hollows, particularly those in Marri, Jarrah and Karri

(Johnstone and Storr, 1998). It lays two eggs, but never raises more than one fledgling. Nesting may take place only in those years when Marri is fruiting heavily (Johnstone and Kirkby, 1999).



10 Threats

The subspecies no longer occupies up to 36% of former habitat that has been cleared for agriculture (Mawson and Johnstone, 1997, Abbott, 1998, Johnstone and Kirkby, 1999). In at least part of the remaining habitat, there is likely to have been a reduction in density because the largest Marri trees, from which the cockatoos obtain most food, have been cut down preferentially for woodchipping. A shortage of hollows is thought not to be limiting the population at present (Abbott, 1998) and plans to stop woodchipping by 2003 should ensure this is not a threat in the future.

11 Recommended actions

- 11.1 Develop a repeatable population monitoring technique.
- 11.2 Initiate monitoring in different parts of range.

12 Bibliography

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