

TAXON SUMMARY

Thick-billed Grasswren (Gawler Ranges)

1	Family	Maluridae
2	Scientific name	<i>Amytornis textilis myall</i> (Mathews, 1916)
3	Common name	Thick-billed Grasswren (Gawler Ranges)
4	Conservation status	Least Concern

5 Reasons for listing

This subspecies is common in suitable habitat throughout known historical range.

	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	40,000 km ²	medium
trend	stable	high
Area of occupancy	5,000 km ²	low
trend	stable	high
No. of breeding birds	10,000	low
trend	stable	medium
No. of sub-populations	1	high
Generation time	4 years	low

6 Intraspecific taxa

A. t. textilis (Western Australia) is Near Threatened.

A. t. modestus (eastern) is Least Concern, as is the species. Though the three subspecies have been recognised for some time (Schodde, 1982), their distributions have been re-assessed (Schodde and Mason, 1999). It was previously thought that this subspecies occurred at the eastern end of the Nullarbor Plain. However, identity of the now-extinct sub-population has been revised to *A. t. textilis*.

7 Past range and abundance

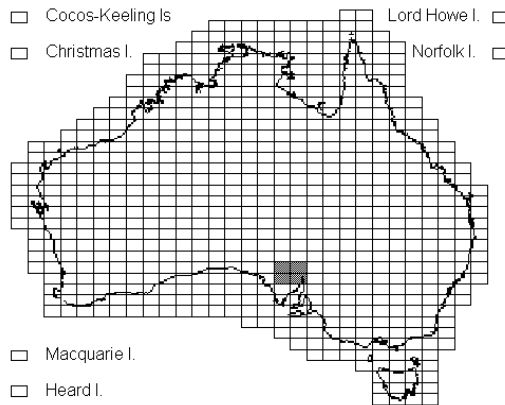
Gawler Ra., north to Lake Gairdner, S. A., reaching the coast near Port Augusta and extending south along the east coast of Eyre Peninsula (Matthew and Carpenter, 1993, Rowley and Russell, 1997, Schodde and Mason, 1999).

8 Present range and abundance

As above.

9 Ecology

Thick-billed Grasswrens live in chenopod shrubland (Rowley and Russell, 1997). They forage on the ground for berries, seeds and insects (Rowley and Russell, 1997). They lay 2-3 eggs in domed or cup nests built in shrubs (Beruldsen, 1980, Rowley and Russell, 1997).



10 Threats

Intense overgrazing could conceivably affect the taxon, but there is no evidence that this is occurring now or has in the past.

11 Recommended actions

11.1 Monitor through periodic, volunteer-based bird mapping schemes.

12 Bibliography

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